

Hafa Adai!

IPI subpoenas Propst, CCC chief. **PAGE 3**
Liberation Day parade set. **PAGE 5**

75¢

Saipan Tribune

Volume XXIX, Issue No. 127

FRIDAY JUNE 28, 2019

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DEBRIS FIRE

A debris fire engulfs a portion of the Coral Ocean Point Golf Resort's property yesterday and the smoke from the flames could be seen across a wide expanse of the south side of Saipan. Inset shows a close look at the fire. According to the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services, the cause of the fire remains undetermined.

ROMMEL BUENAFLORES/KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA

Story on
Page 7

Govt loan request OK'd

By JON PEREZ

jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Marianas Public Land Trust has approved the release of \$15 million to the Torres administration, calling it a "loan" instead of a "line of credit."

The MPLT trustees unanimously approved the loan in a meeting yesterday at their office on Capital Hill.

The trustees established that they would use the term "loan" instead of "line of credit" and set the interest rate at 7.5 percent, to be paid in five years.

The full-faith credit, which Attorney General Edward Manibusan said is considered a public debt, will be paid by withholding the interest income from MPLT, money that they remit annually to the central government's general fund.

See LOAN on Page 4

No blooms in June

» Yutu, other factors blamed for non-fiery flame trees

By MARC VENUS

marc_venus@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

June is when flame trees are usually in full bloom, but July is just around the corner and hardly any flowers could be seen along Saipan's main roads and thoroughfares this year.

CNMI Forestry's Martin Pangelinan Jr. blames the near-absence of blooming flame trees on a combination of factors, chief of which is the

See BLOOMS on Page 4

\$233M budget plan hurdles House

By JON PEREZ

jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The House of Representatives passed a \$233.2-million spending measure for fiscal year 2020 in yesterday's session on Capital Hill but

» But thumbs down PSS funding amendment

that could have given CNMI education additional funding.

After almost three hours, the House voted, 17-2, to pass the measure; minority leader Rep. Edwin K. Propst (Ind-Saipan) and Rep. Tina Sablan (Ind-Saipan) voted

See BUDGET on Page 4

'Steep drop in arrivals distressing'

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE

ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The large drop in the number of people that has visited the CNMI this year compared to last year is worrisome for its ripple effects on the CNMI economy, according to Commonwealth Ports Authority board chair Kimberlyn

King-Hinds

To emphasize her point, she pointed out that there were 643,808 passengers who deplaned at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport at the end of last fiscal year. In contrast, for this year's fiscal year so far, there were only 237,269 de-

See DROP on Page 4

BY THE NUMBERS

- 643,808 deplaned in FY 2018
- 237,268 deplaned in FY 2019 so far

INSIDE



BUSINESS

Contrary to belief, the famous 3-lb burger at Inas' Kitchen is not on the regular menu.

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WORLD

The mother of a man who drowned with his daughter finds the photos of their bodies hard to look at.

PAGE 21



LIFE & STYLE

Netflix is losing its most popular TV show, "The Office," as streaming battles heat up.

PAGE 24



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Local

Woman who robbed arcade gets 10 years

The woman who robbed a poker arcade at knife-point pleaded guilty to the charges and was sentenced to 10 years in prison.

Artemia Gabayeron, 51, pleaded guilty to robbing the Royal Poker gaming arcade in Oleai last April and to robbing the cashier at knife-point.

Gabayeron was sentenced to serve a 10-year imprisonment, all suspended except for five years. She was given credit for over two months of time served.

Upon her release, Gabayeron will be placed on probation for five years. She is also required to pay court fees, probation fees, and restitution of \$649 to Royal Poker.

Gabayeron was allegedly caught on surveillance footage

robbing the Royal Poker gaming arcade in Oleai last April 11 of exactly \$649.

The suspect walked into the establishment between 6:30am and 6:45am after security guard had left before proceeding with the robbery.

The suspect called the cashier for assistance first before forcing her way into the cashier's area and holding the cashier at knife-point.

A short struggle occurred before the suspect was able to open the cash register and grab a handful of cash valued at \$649.

The suspect then fled the establishment, going south toward Oleai.

Gabayeron was apprehended two days later at her home. (Kimberly A. Bautista)



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IPI subpoenas Propst, CCC chief

By **KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA**
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC has asked the local court to subpoena two CNMI officials, including Rep. Edwin K. Propst (Ind-Saipan), to testify in the upcoming hearing regarding IPI's lawsuit against the Commonwealth Casino Commission.

Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth Govendo also subpoenaed yesterday Commonwealth Casino Commission executive director Edward Deleon Guerrero to testify in the case that was filed earlier this week against CCC.

Propst and Deleon Guerrero will be called to testify in the hearing today, where both IPI and CCC will argue their stance on the recently implemented temporary restraining order that prohibits CCC from disclosing IPI's tax information.

According to *Saipan Tribune* archives, IPI is suing CCC for their plans to disclose to the Office of the Attorney General confidential tax return information that is allegedly protected under the CNMI Constitution.

IPI filed the suit in order to permanently prohibit Deleon Guerrero and CCC staff from

disclosing confidential tax return information to the public even pursuant to an Open Government Act request.

In preparation for the preliminary injunction it is asking for, IPI petitioned the court to issue a temporary restraining order to restrain CCC from disclosing any tax information until the preliminary injunction hearing scheduled for July 9.

CCC, however, asked the court to dissolve the restraining order, claiming that IPI is not likely to succeed on the merits of the case.

According to CCC, IPI is not entitled to a TRO, preliminary injunction, or even a permanent injunction because they ultimately will not succeed in preventing CCC from allowing public inspection of the information it has collected.

CCC explains that IPI will not succeed in prohibiting the disclosure of their tax information for multiple reasons, including the fact that Commonwealth law requires the commission to obtain and make publicly available the information IPI seeks to keep confidential. IPI has no privacy rights because it is not a person, and because the matter is time-barred according to Commonwealth law.



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Five sworn-in to revived Guam Ethics Commission

HAGÁTÑA, Guam—During a ceremony on Thursday, Gov. Lou Leon Guerrero administered the oath of office to five new members of the Guam Ethics Commission.

After a 23-year hiatus, the Leon Guerrero-Tenorio Administration revived the commission through executive

Oorder 2019-06.

Each of the five members has been confirmed by the 35th Guam Legislature. They are Robert Jack, MD, ophthalmologist at Island Eye Center; Shannon Murphy, former journalist and managing editor at Guampedia; Meg Tyquiengco, president of Energetic Pres-

ence and retired manager of Xerox Corp. Guam; Donnalyn Camacho, certified fraud examiner and board designated Bank Secrecy Act officer for ANZ Guam, Inc.; and Marilyn Roberto, Vice president of enterprise sales at Docomo Pacific.

“Our administration is de-

living on our commitment to transparency and accountability, and the revival of the Guam Ethics Commission is just one means of ensuring we stay true to the government we promised to the people. Our appointees represent a very talented and diverse group of private sec-

tor professionals who I am confident will perform as an independent, qualified body to ensure each of us is held to the highest ethical standards,” said Leon Guerrero.

Members of the commission cannot be Guam govern-

ment employees or have any immediate family employed by the Government of Guam. During their first meeting, which will be announced at a later date, members will draw for their term lengths.

A sixth member is pending confirmation by the Guam Legislature while a final seat remains vacant. **(PR)**

IPI STATEMENT

IPI paid over \$150 million in taxes

Imperial Pacific International (CNMI), LLC (IPI) has contributed to the CNMI government over \$150 million in Business Gross Revenue Taxes since opening business in 2015. IPI believes they may have overpaid in their BGRT. IPI's tax

team, consisting of its chief financial officer, CNMI accountant, and CNMI tax attorney have been working with the Department of Finance in an effort to resolve this issue. Their next meeting is scheduled for July 12, 2019. **(PR)**

LOAN

From Page 1

Finance Secretary David Atalig has also pledged the reimbursements the CNMI government will receive from the Federal Emergency Management Agency as payment for the loan.

The loan is broken down to \$7.5 million that is currently available to be released by MPLT, while another \$4.5 million will be drawn down in 30 to 45 days.

The remaining \$5 million will be made available when the Department of Public Lands remits revenues it collects from public land leases.

DPL transferred over \$3.3 million in public land lease revenues to MPLT last month. Its transfers have now reached over \$15.2 million since September 2007.

Yesterday's decision ends almost two months of back-

and-forth among the MPLT trustees. They also met several times with representatives of the administration and the Legislature.

In his letter to Atalig on two questions sent to the AG's office, Manibusan said the LOC is a public debt that will be funded by the revenues from the MPLT investment income, which is remitted annually to the CNMI government for legislative appropriation. He, however, said the LOC could not be considered operating expenses since disaster relief and recovery are extraordinary and unexpected expenses.

Atalig earlier sent two questions to Manibusan: 1. Is the line of credit from MPLT a public debt as defined by the [CNMI] Constitution? and, if so, 2. Is the purpose of the public debt to pay for disaster relief and recovery expenses considered operating expenses, which are prohibited under the Constitution?

BUDGET

From Page 1

no to the measure, House Bill 21-64.

It now goes to the Senate for action.

Minus \$84.3 million in Settlement Fund obligations next fiscal year, that leaves \$148.8 million available for appropriation for the 2020 fiscal year, which begins on Oct. 1, 2019.

Rep. Ivan A. Blanco (R-Saipan) introduced the bill.

The House Ways and Means Committee, which Blanco chairs, conducted two days of marathon meetings last week in order to place the bill in yesterday's calendar.

Propst proposed adding a subsection that would have cut the salaries of Cabinet members, special assistants, and directors by 15 percent, with the amount diverted to the PSS

personnel account.

Propst, the minority leader, appealed to the lawmakers to go beyond party lines and think of giving more funds to the CNMI State Public School System and the Northern Marianas College. Despite this, the proposed amendment was defeated, 12-7.

Rep. Ralph N. Yumul (R-Saipan) was the sole majority lawmaker who joined the six minority lawmakers in voting yes to the amendment.

A proposed amendment by Rep. Donald Manglona (Ind-Rota) to cut \$50,000 from the Senate and House leadership accounts was defeated, 13-6. It would have increased PSS' budget from \$37.38 million to \$37.48 million and would have benefited the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., NMC, the NMC board, the Marianas Visitors Authority, PSS, and the Board of Education.



Donnalyn Camacho, Marilyn Roberto, Guam Gov. Leon Guerrero, Meg Tyquiengco, Shannon Murphy, and Dr. Robert Jack pose for a photo after Thursday's swearing-in ceremony in the Adelup cabinet conference room.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

BLOOMS

From Page 1

trees' lingering trauma from Super Typhoon Yutu.

“Not only did we lose the flame trees, we also lost a significant amount of native and non-native trees throughout the island,” Pangelinan added.

On top of that, a persistent drought from the dry El Niño weather phenomenon that has affected the Pacific since January still lingers, Pangelinan said, further preventing the flame trees from blooming.

Other causes of the delay are termites, invasive plants, and a fungus affecting the trees, he said.

CNMI Forestry discovered the termites inside some flame trees while checking out the trees for a research. Termites are attracted to decaying wood, and would feed on the insides of a tree.

The invasive vine called the ivy gourd (*Coccinia gran-*

dis), sometimes called scarlet gourd, which grow alongside many flame trees, climb all over and overwhelms the tree by blocking it from sunlight and water, which stops or slows the growth of the tree.

Pangelinan also pointed out that a ficus plant, locally called *numu*, grows on the flame trees along Airport Road and is overwhelming the trees. If the ficus is still at a young stage, it can be removed easily by hand. However, once the ficus matures, the best solution is to remove the tree completely and replace it with a new one.

CNMI Forestry also reports that a fungus called *phellinus noxius* is attacking many trees and causing brown root rot. It attacks tree roots, causing them to decay, which cuts off water and nutrient supply to the crown, resulting in tree death.

According to Pangelinan, the best solutions for this situation would be to give the flame trees time to re-



A ficus plant has its branches encircling the trunk of a flame tree at the 13 Fishermen's Monument on Beach Road.

MARC VENUS

cover and to replace the trees that were destroyed, as it is a long-term process.

He believes that the trees will be back to normal by 2020.

CNMI Forestry is working with agencies such as the Marianas Visitors Authority and other partners to restore flame

trees throughout the island and with the Micronesian Islands Nature Alliance on the “Bring Back Our Trees” campaign.

CNMI Forestry has a plant nursery where it is reproducing more flame trees and other trees to replace the ones that were destroyed by Yutu.

DROP

From Page 1

planed passengers—those who arrived within October 2018 and April 2019.

“We are not even halfway there. And we have [only three months] left in the remainder of the fiscal year,” she added.

“I think this is a good narrative to show [the difference] between last year and this

year,” she added.

King-Hinds said this substantial decrease in terms of the number of people who are arriving on the island will have a ripple effect on the CNMI economy.

Citing the importance for the people to understand the CNMI's economy today and the lingering impact of Super Typhoon Yutu, King-Hinds said the MVA numbers mean less people are coming in,

buying in stores, sitting in restaurants, availing of tourist activities, and staying in hotels.

This means less hotel occupancy taxes and business gross taxes being collected, she added.

King-Hinds pointed out that it takes quite a while for an economy to recover, especially when dealing with the tourism industry and there's a massive interruption as a result of the catastrophic Cat-

egory 5 typhoon like Yutu.

Although the arrival numbers are improving steadily, there remains a big difference in the trend this year as compared to last year's, she said.

King-Hinds said noted that, in April alone, there were 52,000 deplaned passengers last year compared to 42,000 this year.

“That's 10,000 [fewer people] coming in. That has a ripple effect to the economy,” she said.

Liberation Day parade set

By **MARC VENUS**
marc_venus@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The 2019 Liberation Day Parade is set, with the lineup of all entries for the float competition now completed.

As per tradition, the parade will take place along Beach Road on Saipan and will start at the National Office Supply, snaking along Beach Road to the grandstand at the Garapan Fishing Base.

Roads leading to Beach Road will be closed by 12pm and the parade will begin at 2pm.

According to Liberation Day Parade Committee chair Brad Ruzala, there are a total of six non-competitive float entries and eight competitive float entries.

The winning float will get \$3,000. The second-best float will receive \$2,000, while the third and fourth placers will receive \$1,000 and \$500, respectively.

There are a total of 46 participants for the event. Ruzala also added that some marchers would perform at the grandstand, but not all. TanHoldings Corp. president Jerry Tan will serve as the grand marshal of the parade.

The Liberation Day festivities will also be happening on the day of the parade. The festivities will be open to the public starting at 6pm. There will be different carnival games for entertainment and different food options.

According to the 2019 Liberation Day Planning Committee chair Joe Ayuyu, Jr. the 2019 Liberation Day Queen will be crowned at 6:30pm this Sunday, June 30 at the Garapan Fishing Base.

2018 Liberation Day Queen Brinae Joselyn Maratita Cruz will be handing over her crown to the next winner of the contest. The 2019 Liberation Day Royal Court candidates are Regiene Babauta, Pernalyn Camacho, Angel Deleon Guerrero, Nadine Kapileo, Kiara Nekaifes, Lea Salalila, and Rhe-ann Tudela.

Tickets for the Liberation Day raffle are still being sold until Sunday. This year's Liberation Day raffle includes a grand prize of \$10,000. The first prize winner will receive \$5,000, while second, third, fourth, and fifth prize winners will get \$3,000, \$1,000, and \$500, respectively.

Liberation Day parade spectator fees are being charged for those planning to set up tents and camps along the parade route on Beach Road.

Visit the Department of Public Lands to reserve a spot for the parade. And pay the spectator fees at the department. For more information about reserving an area, contact DPL at (670) 234-3751.

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9th Circuit affirms dismissal of Bangladeshi widower's suit

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie.delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit affirmed yesterday the U.S. District Court for the NMI's dismissal of a case of a Bangladeshi widower of a U.S. citizen wife who is suing to prevent his deportation.

According to the Ninth Circuit ruling issued by Chief Judge Sidney R. Thomas and Judges Consuelo M. Callahan and Morgan Christen, nowhere in the record or the briefing does Obaydul Hoque Bhuiyan claim any intent to travel to the United States.

The Ninth Circuit judges

said the U.S. government has affirmed that, as a result of the reopening of Bhuiyan's case and the grant of humanitarian parole, he no longer has any unlawful accrued presence time.

"Thus, any injury he might suffer as a result of any prior potentially accrued unlawful presence time does not constitute an injury sufficient to support the existence of a case or controversy," the judges said.

Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona dismissed Bhuiyan's entire lawsuit in July 2017 for lack of jurisdiction.

Bhuiyan's lawsuit was originally filed in 2014.

In her order granting the

U.S. government's motion to dismiss the case, Manglona said Bhuiyan fails to point to any decision or order resulting in a finding of unlawful presence that has triggered a ground of inadmissibility that the court can review and provide any relief.

Manglona also determined that the issue of accrual of unlawful presence did not trigger until Bhuiyan left the CNMI; it remained a non-issue from the time he initiated this court action up until his departure.

Bhuiyan departed the CNMI on Nov. 3, 2015, while still holding a humanitarian parole status.

Bhuiyan then appealed, asking the Ninth Circuit to reverse Manglona's dismissal of his lawsuit.

In affirming Manglona's decision, the Ninth Circuit judges said the District Court lacked jurisdiction over Bhuiyan's Federal Tort Claims Act claim because he failed to identify similar circumstances giving rise to liability under state tort law.

The judges said the FTCA waives the U.S. government's sovereign immunity "under circumstances where the United States, if a private person, would be liable to the claimant in accordance with the law of the place where the act or

omission occurred."

The U.S. government argued that Vermont law applied, while Bhuiyan contended that the law of the CNMI applies.

The Ninth Circuit judges ruled that they need not decide which law applies, because Bhuiyan failed to demonstrate that either CNMI or Vermont law would hold a private action liable in any similar situation.

The judges said Bhuiyan relies on Vermont law involving general negligence principles, and a CNMI case involving an employer's responsibility to submit documents to the government.

The judges said none of the

cases are sufficiently analogous.

The judges said Bhuiyan cites out-of-jurisdiction authority, but that "reliance on out-of-jurisdiction cases do not suffice, per the plain language of the statute."

Further, the judges said, as Manglona noted, there is, as a general matter, "no private analogue to governmental withdrawal of immigration benefits."

The judges also ruled that the District Court lacked jurisdiction over Bhuiyan's declaratory judgment action because his complaint did not articulate a sufficiently certain injury in fact.

According to court records, Bhuiyan commenced his lawsuit in June 2014. He seeks damages for negligence, a declaration that his presence in the CNMI was lawful from Nov. 28, 2009, through Nov. 3, 2015.

He also seeks an injunction barring the U.S. government and its agents from asserting in any context that he had accrued unlawful presence during that time.

According to court records, Bhuiyan first came to the CNMI from Bangladesh in 1996, and has resided in the CNMI continuously since then.

On March 5, 2004, Bhuiyan married Ana Atalig, also known as Ana Atalig Torres, a U.S. citizen. Less than three years later, she died.

After his marriage, Bhuiyan applied for and was issued an immediate relative permit by the CNMI government.

In March 2013, plaintiff was issued a notice to appear for removal proceedings, on the ground that he was "an immigrant not in possession of a valid unexpired immigrant visa."

Bhuiyan then filed a court action in federal court.

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Fire engulfs COP debris

By **KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA**
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A debris fire engulfed a portion of the Coral Ocean Point Golf Resort property yesterday, but firemen from the Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services were able to ensure that the fire didn't threaten neighboring homes. There were no reports of injuries or fatalities.

As of 6:13pm yesterday, DFEMS had yet to confirm whether the fire in Koblerville had been fully extinguished. DFEMS later said that because of the amount of debris and what the debris consists of, they were unable to give an exact determination as to when they would be able to extinguish the fire.

The cause of the fire is still under investigation, according to DFEMS spokesman Derek Gersonde.

He said that a possible structure fire was reported to the Department of Public Safety at about 12:52pm. DPS, in turn, immediately contacted DFEMS.

DFEMS later confirmed

at the scene that it was not a structure fire but a debris fire.

Gersonde said the first responding units arrived on scene at 1:02pm.

DFEMS spokesperson Bobbie Jean Taisacan said the fire consisted of Super Typhoon Yutu debris collected from the Coral Ocean Point, consisting of damaged golf carts, oil, tires, metal, building materials from COP structures, and more.

DFEMS was able to ensure that the fire burned out within the vicinity and, according to Gersonde, was not a threat to neighboring homes.

The closest residence to the fire was the COP barrack that houses many COP employees.

Representatives from the nearby Winners Laundry was also present and they brought with them 3,000 gallons of water as a donation.

Before this, the last structure fire on Saipan occurred at a massage parlor in Su-supe, above the Winchell's branch in front of Kanoa Resort. No one was injured in that fire.

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Q&A: Census citizenship question sparks legal debate, fears

By GEOFF MULVIHILL
ASSOCIATED PRESS

The U.S. Supreme Court is expected to rule this week on a request from the Census Bureau to ask everyone in the country about citizenship status. The plan has set off litigation and debate and raised some important questions. Among them:

Q: What is the proposed question?

A: The Census Bureau would ask for each member of each household, "Is this person a citizen of the United States?" It comes with five options for answering: born in the U.S.; born in Guam, Northern Marianas, Puerto Rico, or the U.S. Virgin Islands; born abroad to a parent or parents who are U.S. citizens; born abroad and naturalized in the U.S.; born abroad and not a citizen. There's no option for non-citizens to say whether they're in the U.S. legally.

Q: Will it definitely be on the census?

A: That's up to the U.S. Supreme Court, which is deciding whether it should be allowed after several states sued calling for the question to be removed.

Q: What does the Constitution say about the census?

A: The 14th Amendment, which reworked the original constitutional words on the census, says, "Representatives shall be apportioned among the several States according to their respective numbers, counting the whole number of persons in each State."

Q: What are the legal issues?

A: Three federal judges

have found the administration violated federal law by acting in an "arbitrary and capricious" manner in attempting to add the question. Two of the three also found that the effort would violate the constitutional provision requiring a count of the entire population once a decade. The fear is that many immigrants won't take part if they must address their citizenship status, yielding a census with inaccurate numbers.

Q: Has the census asked this before?

A: Not of everyone in the country. For several counts through 1950, when the Census Bureau's once-a-decade headcount was conducted by having employees go door-to-door rather than ask people to fill out their own surveys, only those who volunteered that they were born outside the U.S. were asked their citizenship status. Citizenship questions have also appeared regularly on long forms or supplemental surveys sent to some households.

Q: Why does the Census Bureau want to include the question?

A: Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross, who oversees the Census Bureau, said in a memo last year that the Justice Department wants to ask the question to gather data to help identify majority-minority congressional districts, which the Voting Rights Act calls for when possible.

Q: Are there other reasons?

A: Critics of including the question allege Republicans want citizenship data so states can try to use numbers of citi-

zens rather than total populations to draw state legislative districts, potentially giving the GOP an advantage because noncitizens are more common in Democratic-leaning areas. They also say Republicans are aware that an undercount of people with foreigners in their households could cost immigrant-heavy states such as California clout in Congress and federal money. Federal judges in California, Maryland and New York all found that Ross's stated rationale for the question concealed his real reasons, which the judges said they could not determine.

Q: Why is there opposition to the citizenship question?

A: Advocates for civil liberties and immigrants say the question is untested, unnecessary and part of an effort by President Donald Trump's administration to suppress the count of noncitizens and other foreign-born people. There are also fears that the administration could give the answers to immigration authorities. That would violate federal law and the Census Bureau says it would not do it.

Q: Why does the debate touch on computer files found in the home of a Republican consultant who died last year?

A: The files of North Carolina-based GOP redistricting expert Thomas Hofeller, found on his hard drive, contained a previously private report detailing how Republicans could benefit in Texas by using the number of voting-age citizens rather than the total population as the basis for drawing state

legislative districts there. Civil rights groups said Hofeller pushed for the census citizenship question toward that end. Justice Department lawyers denied the claim and said it "borders on frivolous." Lawyers have asked the Supreme Court to consider this element, which came to light after arguments on the case.

Q: Was the process for adding this question different from the usual protocol for the Census Bureau?

A: Yes. It's rare for the Census Bureau to add a question, but even changes in wording are usually run by focus groups and tested extensively in a search for the best way to ask them, where to put them on the forms and other questions. The Census Bureau is testing whether the response rate would be hurt by having a citizenship question, but it has not completed the normal yearslong process to explore the impact of the question.

Q: Does every household have to complete the census?

A: Legally, yes, under a 1954 law that can fine people for refusing to do it, "willfully" neglecting it or providing false information for it. The maximum fine is \$5,000.

Q: Is this law regularly enforced?

A: Historically, no. Perhaps the last conviction for refusing to answer census questions was for William F. Rickenbacker of Briarcliff Manor, New York. He was convicted of failing to complete a supplemental questionnaire on housing and income in 1960. He was fined \$100 and sentenced to one day of proba-

tion. A higher court upheld his conviction.

Q: What other questions are asked of everybody?

A: It's a short list, concerning age, sex, race and Hispanic origin, relationship to the person completing the form and whether the person owns or rents the home.

Q: What could happen if someone leaves the citizenship question blank but fills out the rest of the form?

A: That's not clear. Some advocates say people who don't answer it are likely to be asked again in follow-ups from census workers, who have no enforcement powers.

Q: Would a citizenship question cause an undercount?

A: It's expected to. The Census Bureau itself estimates that the response rate for households that include at least one noncitizen would be 5.8 percent lower because of the question. Some advocates and independent analysts think it could be worse or that it would disproportionately affect minorities. At the same time, advocacy groups are pushing hard for people to be counted, even if there's a citizenship question.

Q: Is personal census information kept private?

A: Legally, it must be. The law calls for up to five years in prison and fines of up to \$250,000 for census employees who disclose personal information. Sharing with other government agencies is specifically prohibited.

Q: Has the Census Bureau ever shared confidential information?

A: Historians have found that the government used information from the 1940 census — before the current law forbidding sharing — to help round up Japanese Americans and place them in internment camps during World War II.

Q: Do individual census responses ever become public?

A: Yes, but only 72 years after the census is conducted. They're often used by genealogists and other researchers.

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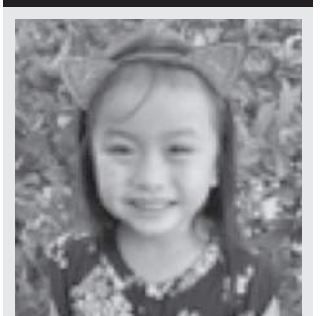


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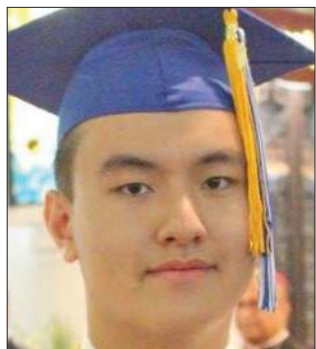
BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy 5th birthday to our princess, Aleaya Bermudes! May God continue to bless you today and always! We love you always, from Mommy and Daddy!

Gonzaga U honors 2 MCS AlumKnights



Cushing

Mount Carmel School announced yesterday that two more of its alumni, called AlumKnights, have been recognized for their academic accomplishments at Gonzaga University.

Jeff Matthew Melchor, a 2018 AlumKnight, was named to Gonzaga University's president's list for the spring 2019 term. Students must earn a 3.85 to 4.0 grade-point average to be listed.

Arron Cushing, a 2017 AlumKnight, was named to the university's dean's list for the spring 2019 term. Students must earn a 3.50 to 3.84 grade-point average to be listed.



Melchor

Gonzaga University is a private Catholic university with more than 7,800 students. Situated along the Spokane River near downtown Spokane, Washington, Gonzaga offers 75 fields of study, 26 master's degrees, doctorate degrees in leadership studies and nursing, and a juris doctor degree through the School of Law. (PR)

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Solid waste division to collect new fees

The Division of Solid Waste Management under the Department of Public Works would like to inform the public, particularly commercial refuse haulers, that with the adoption of new tipping fees last April 28, 2019, the DPW

Division of Solid Waste Management will enforce the collection of the following fees:

Effective July 12, 2019:

- (d) Special waste and construction and demolition waste
- (e) Dead animals
- (f) Tires

(g) E-waste

(i) Appliance/white goods

Effective Oct. 1, 2019:

- (b) Municipal and household solid waste
- (c) Garment waste
- (h) Green waste

For additional information

or inquiries regarding the set fees, call Enrique Dela Cruz, director of Solid Waste Management Division, or Blas T. Mafnas, Solid Waste branch manager at 322-2745 or 322-2760 or via facsimile at 322-2762. (PR)

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MVA maintains small offshore office in Taiwan

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Marianas Visitors Authority still maintains a small offshore office in Taiwan with the same company that also handles the MVA's marketing efforts in South Korea and Russia.

The MVA has already cancelled its contract with AVI-ARREPS Marketing Garden

for the Korea and Russia marketing, but has maintained its contract with the company for Taiwan. MVA board vice chair Gloria Cavanagh said in an interview early this week that they want to retain even just a small presence in Taiwan.

Cavanagh said there are no direct flights between the CNMI and Taiwan and Russia right now, so it is difficult

to actually justify opening or keeping offshore offices there, especially in this time of austerity measures.

She said MVA has to make hard decisions, but they are still promoting in Taiwan because there are connecting flights to that destination.

"But there is still no direct flight. We are still hoping that they are going to come

back and do charter flights," she said.

Cavanagh recalled that about this time last year, there was an airline that was actually interested in doing direct flights from Taiwan.

"There was an interest there. Now I don't think it's there anymore. But we still want to stay there, even with our small presence," she said, explaining that the contract involved is just a small amount.

At MVA's membership meeting last December, MVA chair Marian Aldan-Pierce said MVA has had a representative office in Taiwan for several years now, working on building destination awareness and demand.

Aldan-Pierce described the Taiwan market as "very promising."

Korea is the top-performing source of market for the CNMI. China and Japan follow. The remaining markets

make up only 7 percent of visitors.

The MVA board cancelled the contract with AVIARREPS Marketing for South Korea effective Sept. 30, 2019. MVA is now seeking a new company that will manage CNMI's offshore promotions in that country.

MVA also decided to close its offshore office in Russia effective this Sunday, June 30, *Saipan Tribune* learned.

US Naval War College is getting its 1st female president

By **JENNIFER McDERMOTT**
ASSOCIATED PRESS

PROVIDENCE, R.I. (AP)—A helicopter pilot who heads a military command in Guam will be the first female leader of the U.S. Naval War College, the Navy announced, days after removing the college president who came un-

der investigation over questionable behavior.

Rear Adm. Shoshana Chatfield will be the new president, Navy Secretary Richard Spencer said in a statement released after the school's graduation ceremony, calling her a "historic choice."

Rear Adm. Jeffrey Harley was removed as the college's

president Monday after The Associated Press reported he was under investigation and more than a year after the initial complaint was filed.

Spencer was at the post-graduate institution in Newport, Rhode Island, on Friday for graduation. About 550 students crossed the stage, and about 1,000 students graduat-

ed from the distance learning program. Spencer challenged them to be innovative and act with urgency.

Shortly afterward, he released the announcement about the school's new leadership.

Chatfield served as commander of a provincial reconstruction team in Afghanistan in 2008 and as an assistant professor of political science at the



Chatfield

United States Air Force Academy from 2001 to 2004. She assumed command in Guam, of Joint Region Marianas, in January 2017.

"She is the embodiment of the type of warrior-scholar we need now to lead this storied institution as it educates our next generation of leaders," Spencer said in the statement.

Both Spencer and Adm. John Richardson, the chief

of naval operations, were involved in picking Chatfield.

The AP reported Harley was under investigation for allegedly spending excessively, abusing his hiring authority

and otherwise behaving inappropriately, including keeping a margarita machine in his office.

Richardson told the AP that though the investigation into Harley isn't yet complete, he felt he had enough information to warrant removing Harley this week.

Richardson said he received reports from investigators around the same time the AP article was published. He called the AP report "responsible and balanced."

A small group of longtime college employees filed an anonymous complaint about Harley in April 2018 with the

Navy's office of the inspector general. The group contacted the inspector general again in January with additional allegations of Harley flouting Navy rules and norms.

Inspector general investigations, across the Defense Department, routinely take months or more than a year.

Emails obtained by the AP show the college has struggled to make payroll under Harley's leadership and spent about \$725,000 annually on raises while facing an annual shortfall of \$5 million or more.

Harley declined last week to answer a series of questions about the allegations, including his use of a margarita machine. He downplayed the complaints in a campuswide email, saying that they were from "a few individuals" and that all his decisions were subject to legal review and within his authority.

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For Saipan, go to <http://www.cucgov.org/wp-content/SAIPAN2018.pdf>

For Tinian, go to <http://www.cucgov.org/wp-content/TINIAN2018.pdf>

For Rota, go to <http://www.cucgov.org/wp-content/ROTA2018.pdf>

If you need the report translated, wish to speak with someone about the report, or would like a paper copy delivered or emailed to you, please call CUC at (670) 664-4282.

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INVITATION FOR BIDS

ITB19-GOV-090

Rota High School Renovation and Conversion to Office Spaces

Governor Ralph DLG. Torres, and Lt. Governor Arnold I. Palacios, through the 702 Capital Improvement Project (CIP) funded by Office of Insular Affairs, U.S. Department of Interior, (collectively, "Commonwealth") are soliciting sealed bids for the Rota High School Renovation and Conversion to Office Spaces on Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on June 10, 2019 at the Office of Management & Budget, Office of the Governor, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building in Capitol Hill, Saipan. All interested bidders are required to include an Insurer Certification Clearance (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC should be obtained at the Department of Commerce, Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, as revised through May 24, 2001 and with the Northern Mariana Islands Administrative Code (NMIAC) §70-30-3-725 Gratuities and Kickbacks and §70.30.3-730 Prohibition Against Contingent Fees. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

There will be a pre-bid conference for this project on **Wednesday, June 19, 2019, 10:00 am ChST** at the project site in Songsong Village, Rota, CNMI. Questions concerning this project shall be directed to Ms. Nerissa Benavente in writing by e-mail: nerissa.cip@gmail.com, on or before **Wednesday, June 26, 2019** to the Capital Improvement Program, Office of the Governor, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, or fax (670) 664-2408. All responses to inquiries will be shared with all prospective bidders.

Sealed bids must be marked **ITB19-GOV-090 Rota High School Renovation and Conversion to Office Spaces**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply located at the former Emergency Management Office, Building No. 1301, Ascension Drive, Capitol Hill on Saipan no later than **10:00 a.m. ChST July 5, 2019**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than **10:00 a.m. ChST July 10, 2019** and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@cnmidot.net. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than July 5, 2019 and the bid documents must be received no later than July 10, 2019. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly open and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply located at the former Emergency Management Office, Building No. 1301, Ascension Drive, Capitol Hill on Saipan at **10:30 a.m. ChST July 5, 2019**. However, if no notices of intent to bid are received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be open at **10:00 a.m. ChST July 11, 2019**.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) a bid security of fifteen percent (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashier's check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 70-30.3-245. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than \$25,000.00.

Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:

- A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
- A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceeds the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract. Acceptable assets are only:

- Cash
- US Government Securities
- Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
- Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
- Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is One Hundred Eighty (180) calendar days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. The daily amount of liquidated damages shall be two percent (2%) of the contract price divided by 180 calendar days, the contract time and will be accessed as delays beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Ralph DLG. Torres
Governor

Herman S. Sablan, Director
CNMI Procurement & Supply

Marianas Peoples

The Battles of Saipan & Tinian

Exhibit	Locations	Date
75 th Anniversaries Multimedia Exhibit	NMI Museum of History & Culture American Memorial Park	June 12 - July 14, 2019



Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXIX, Issue No. 127

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com

Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Turkey's fight for democracy

On the surface, Sunday's mayoral election in Istanbul centered on garbage collection, water service and other municipal issues. But it was ultimately a referendum on the leadership of Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and the increasingly oppressive rule of his Islamist Justice and Development Party, or AKP.

Erdogan's candidate lost. The winner, opposition candidate Ekrem Imamoglu, had narrowly defeated an AKP candidate in an election in March, but in what now appears to have been a massive strategic blunder, the Turkish government called for a do-over. The specter of the president nullifying city elections may have angered voters, who this time handed Imamoglu an even bigger win, with about 54% of the vote.

The AKP candidate conceded defeat and Erdogan congratulated Imamoglu. Turkish democracy, although weakened by Erdogan's rule, clings to life.

Istanbul is one of the world's most populous cities and dominates the social and political life of Turkey, a NATO member linking Europe and Asia, the West and Islam. Erdogan's rise to power can be traced to his own election as Istanbul mayor in 1994 and his widely lauded performance in office, curbing pollution and traffic.

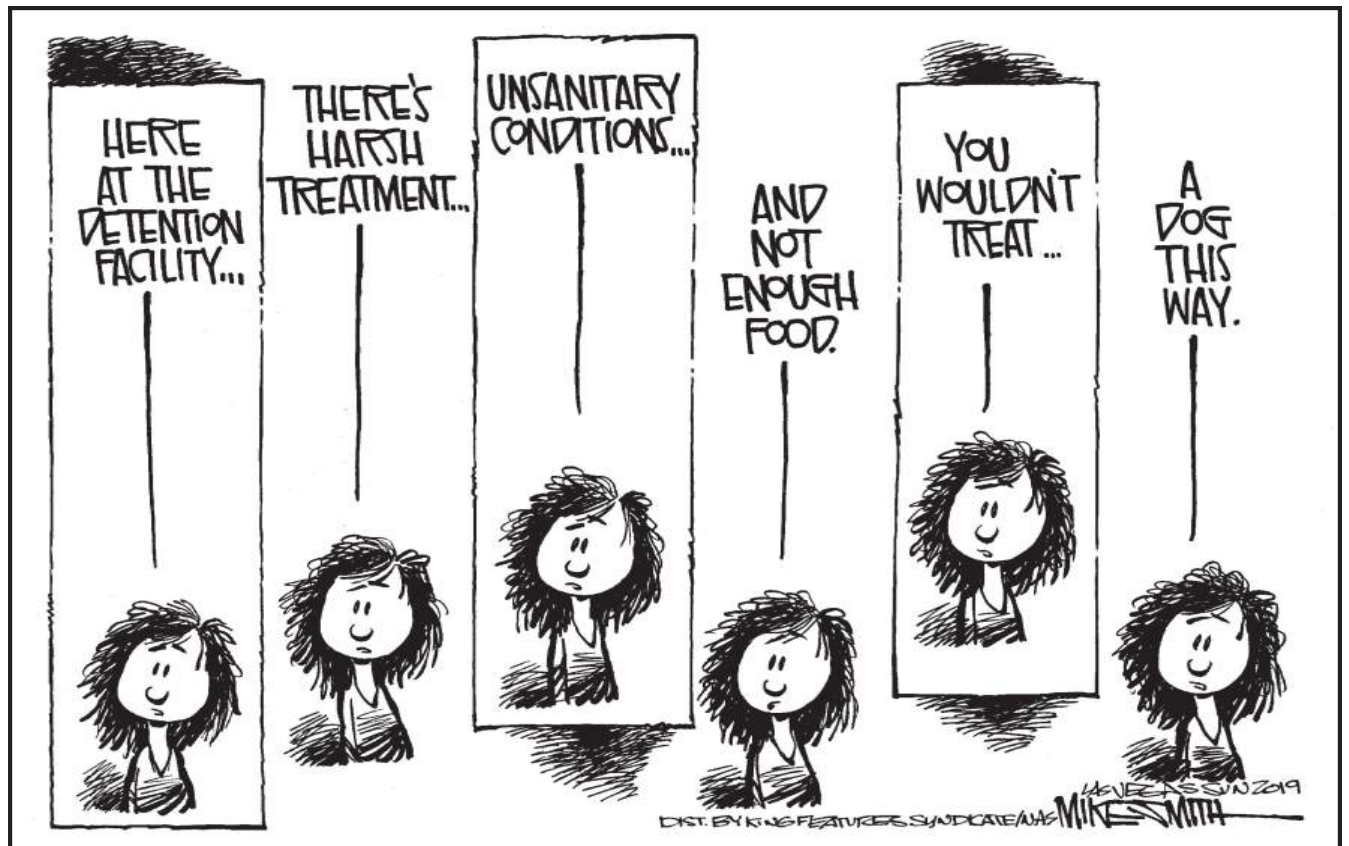
But he was imprisoned and forced to relinquish his position for publicly reciting religious verses. Released, he became prime minister in 2003 and president in 2014—and consolidated his power through crackdowns on press freedoms and purges of judges and the military. His government continues to imprison dissenters for what Erdogan describes as their role in a 2016 coup attempt. Tens of thousands have been arrested.

Popular sovereignty's most serious challenge is built within it. Voters are prone to nationalism and on occasion embrace strongmen who consolidate their power by whittling away human rights and liberties, sometimes through the electoral process. In Turkey, for example, Erdogan tightened his grip on the country in 2017 by pushing through a constitutional referendum vastly strengthening the powers of his office.

Once lost, free speech and a free press, and an independent legislature and judiciary, are difficult to regain. Elections give citizens and observers alike the comfort of democratic rituals, but their power and authenticity are tested most when they allow voters to repudiate their rulers.

Modern Turkey has been pockmarked by military takeovers and now by the elected president's authoritarian rule. What was so troubling about the March elections was Erdogan's ability to pressure officials to throw out the results. But apparently even he was not strong enough to sweep away the decisive victory of Imamoglu. That's an encouraging sign for freedom in Turkey. It should also provide hope amid populist rollbacks Hungary, Poland, Italy and other democratic nations that have proven all too willing to relinquish—at least temporarily—the power to dissent.

(c)2019 Los Angeles Times



Why we celebrate Liberation Day

Unlike current revisionist history ideas floated ceaselessly these days as fact, Liberation Day is not about celebrating the NMI's "liberation" from legitimate Japanese rule under a League of Nations Trusteeship* by American armed forces.

No, the day is a celebration that commemorates the release of the whole local population from U.S. military-run concentration camps some two years after the island was declared secure after the American Invasion of Saipan. No one was gassed, none were stood before firing squads so maybe the nicer, friendlier term of "interment" camp could be used....but make no mistake, the entire local indigenous population was held, against their will, in Camp Susupe. They were locked up inside this camp until July 4th 1946. Remember the US Military Commander declared Saipan "secure" and under U.S. control as of July 9, 1944.

That is what this celebration is all about. That is why this is the 75th anniversary of the Invasion of Saipan while it is the 73rd anniversary of Liberation Day. Please remember this while you are whirling around on the Ferris wheel or eating a barbecued tataga from Palau or some amazing chicken kelaguen. Yeah, I know, no Ferris wheel this year.

*The League of Nations ceased to exist in April 1946. The United Nations vested the U.S. with control of the trust territories (including Saipan) in July 1947.

Great idea! Let's expand it

The minority bloc has come up with an idea (H.L.B. 21-23) to impose a 10-percent net profit tax on the sole licensed casino business here and another bill that singles the same company out and doesn't allow it to write off bad debts, unlike every other company in the CNMI. Both of these bills will generate revenue for the starving central government but why single out only one company?

Hey, Tina, revise that bill to include other businesses you don't like: 10 percent tax on deep-fried chicken, because it's unhealthy and leads to obesity. Stick that 10 percent tax on the net profit of all donut shops and anyone who sells sugary soft drinks. Exhaust is bad for the air so cram that tax atop the gasoline industry. In fact, why stop there? If you want fairness and transparency just revise your bill to impose the 10-percent tax on everybody's net profits. That way there will be plenty of loot lying around to redistribute to those pet projects you and the other Legislators want to er...pet. Also, be sure to keep the tax on gross revenue in addition to the new one on net profit. That way you are taxing what is left after taxing total income of a business (including what turns out to be bad debts, i.e., money never collected but taxed anyway). What could be fairer than double taxation? Triple taxation. They're working evenings on that one.

I'm thinking why only 10 percent? Why not take a page out of the new-wave Democrat Party presidential candidates' playbook and smack 'em with a 70-percent tax or 90 percent or heck, take it all. Let's have 100 percent slaves instead of 70 percent slaves.

SOUR GRAPES

By BRUCE BATEMAN

Special to the Saipan Tribune



Bruce A. Bateman resides on Saipan with a wife, a son, and an unknown number of boonie dogs. He has owned and operated a number of unusual businesses and most recently worked as the marketing manager for MVA. Bruce likes to read, travel, tinker with bicycles, hike, swim, and play a bit of golf. He is opinionated and writes when the moon is full and the mood strikes.

Imagine, dear reader, how you would react if the government taxed your paycheck with a payroll tax but then called for a 20-percent drop in your pay (sound familiar, government workers?) but continued to payroll tax you for the whole amount, even those dollars that you never got. That is precisely the kind of unfair tax that Rep. Yumul wants to single out and impose on Imperial Pacific. He wants to tax them, and only them, on money they never even received. It sounds as ridiculous as imposing a \$20,000 "luxury" tax on that new Rolls Royce you didn't buy.

Sablan, Yumul, and Propst seem to say, "Sorry, IPI, I don't like your business, so I'll throw in a tax on you that other businesses don't have to pay and I'll not let you write off such obviously legitimate deductions as bad debts, just because I wish you weren't here." (Although I don't know how we would have paid the CNMI's bills and spent so lavishly over the past few years without you being here). Hint: read *Atlas Shrugged* by Ayn Rand to find out the answer.

What would cause otherwise seemingly rational people to rail against a business (IPI's casino in this case) and try all sorts of nefarious schema to kill it off, then turn around and complain that it is not supporting the government tax base enough and propose to double tax it even though it has paid more by far in taxes since its inception than any other businesses in the CNMI? The answer that they hate casinos is too simple. They do, but that is not their only motivation. I think some in the U.S. want to see the CNMI be subservient and beholden to and grovel before the U.S. for its daily economic bread rather than reach financial independence. Sadly, some of these "independent" lawmakers serve as unwitting lackeys to those policymakers who would keep the population here poor and barefoot while the U.S. gains a few more of the precious few islands we have so they can bomb the bejesus out of them. I think some of the Indys will be surprised and sad to learn the true end result that is anticipated by those policymakers they support.

■■■

Thanks for reading Sour Grapes! Next time we will look at the
See WHY on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Realistic issues

Economic contraction—when money and jobs disappear—is a difficult issue to deal with, especially for tiny island economies like the CNMI.

We use the term economy, braving misperception of the concept while equally unsure that we have an economy. In short, we never built one from the ground up. We simply accepted what descended in happenstance.

Our alleged economy is simple: we are resource-poor and don't have anything sustainable to support basic needs reliably, stably, in perpetuity.

We never attempted ascertaining via prescient proof that there's real local economy. We take it in stride for what it's worth and leave it be. Or why ignore salvaging our future as informed citizens?

In the meantime, we rely upon our mini-tourism industry, local revenue and assistance from across the sea to make ends meet. But even with a teeny industry, I happily accept it with hope that we would build upon what works! Moreover, I'm fully wary of the limitations of island economies and there isn't much that we could do beyond accepting the limitations of natural island setting.

Island economies are difficult to weather without marketable land or sea resources. Have we identified anything up this alley beyond being out of focus and disoriented? Whatever happened to the term "planning?" Have we visited it or "not yet, already?"

So we understand the complex concept of economic contraction, let's bring it down to the family home level where income—its sufficiency or inadequacy—dictates the quality of life. In brief, the quality of life at home is a perfect measuring tape to see, in no uncertain terms, life in the villages.

Isn't it true that nearly 15,000 employees here are earning starvation income (poverty level) at this juncture? Is there a plan to improve their income?

Meanwhile, we owe the Commonwealth Health Center some \$18.3 million in uncompensated care, not to mention the millions we owe the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. Eh, *da kine* canoe keeps sinking steadily, too.

The contraction forced by storms and exit of Nippon investments only leads to more hardship for employees at the starvation level. What saves them in real terms daily is the culture of sharing. Yes, we share everything, including food stamp!

There may be room for storm recovery but the latter is a much more difficult issue to resolve, if at all. The amount of exit funds is about \$7 billion. Is there an iota of opportunity to work for its recovery? Have we found a new paradigm for this purpose?

■ ■ ■

Question: With major economic contraction, troubling the consuming query, "what if" it goes further south? As it is, work hour reduction has been imposed on employees CNMI-wide recently.

But even more importantly, how much of a contraction are we talking about in terms of dollar figure? Is it \$100 million, \$200 million or \$300 million? It's good to know so we could gauge its strength against current obligations and prospects for additional revenues.

■ ■ ■

Hardship: The hardest hit would be the nearly 15,000 employees now earning starvation income (poverty). There's hardly any room for any further adjustments while literally struggling to pay for the first family home, car, food, and clothing, among others.

WHY

From Page 12

proposed Garapan revitalization.

■ ■ ■

For those who read *War with the Ayatollah?* earlier this week:

There is, indeed, nothing in all this world that can match war for popularity. It is, to at least nine people out of 10, the supreme circus of circuses, the show beyond compare, it is Hollywood multiplied by 10,000. It combines the excitements of a bullfight, a revival, a train wreck, and a lynching. It is a hunt for public enemies with a million Dillingers scattered throughout the woods. It is the dizziest, gaudiest, grandest, damndest sort of bust that the human mind can imagine.

—H.L. Mencken

What is the difference between a taxidermist and a tax collector? The taxidermist takes only your skin.

—Mark Twain

It's a difficult setback for families all over the archipelago.

■ ■ ■

Visit: Rep. Sheila Babauta has visited some of the islands up north under her constituency. She shows enthusiasm and commitment to meet and know people she represents at the Legislature.

It's a grand and healthy opportunity to engage honest exchange of views on matters of mutual concerns. It should lead to formulation of initial plans attained via joint discussion. It needs a fully defined set of plans.

Indeed, the desire to resettle is founded on the term "home." Folks are better off working on familiar shores they've known since their birth. Why do villagers stay where they are all these years? Isn't it the tranquility of home?

■ ■ ■

Debate: Dems forerunners Bernie Sanders and Elizabeth Warren have started hurling rhetoric in hopes of luring more voters. Interesting a Fox News headline, "Lunatic Derby" between the two. Each tries to twist the cow's tail in his/her favor.

We can't turn away from border crisis

Like many people, I spent the weekend enjoying the beautiful weather—in my case, with my 4-year-old toddler and 8-week-old newborn. During late night feedings and naps, though, I also spent hours on social media. I shared happy pictures of my babies, but also, in a heartbreaking juxtaposition, pored over the latest news from the border.

For those who haven't read about it, multiple news outlets, from the New York Times to Fox News, reported that hundreds of children as young as 2 are being held in inhumane conditions. They are in overcrowded cells, without soap or toothbrushes, without diapers or clean clothes, sleeping on cold floors with the lights on all night. Older children are doing their best to comfort other children they have only just met. Attorneys from the Justice Department argued that none of this violated their legal duty to provide "safe and sanitary" conditions for children.

Beyond the latest reports, we also know that thousands of children have been separated from their parents and that there have been thousands of reports of sexual assault and abuse in these detention facilities. In the past year alone, at least seven children have died in detention—after a decade of no deaths.

We have all heard the grotesque stories of children in the U.S. being held captive in basements, sexually abused and tortured by strangers and family members alike. I know we recoil at these stories, usually recounted in tearful interviews with People magazine or special reports on television. Who among us, if we knew this was happening, would decline to help one of these children? And yet, this kind of horrific treatment is happening on a mass scale, perpetrated by our very own government. And maddeningly, we have known about it for at least a year.

As I read report after report, I felt increasingly saddened, enraged and frustrated at the overwhelming scope of the problem and my own humble ability to do anything meaningful to affect change. My frustration grew worse as I searched phrases like "how to help migrant children" and "protests for migrant children" only to see articles from exactly a year ago, when there was a public outcry that resulted in Families Belong Together marches across the country. There were only a handful of search

By **JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.**
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.



Even more stunning is the assertion that neither has any clue of Economics 101 or the difference between revenue and profit. So the Dems are scratching dirt to find table kitchen issues to forge narratives for national level presentation.

Moreover, Joe Biden is an old bird that can't recall how to fly straight, rumbling heedlessly in the jungle of empty rhetoric. I like him, though, for keeping Trump on his toes.

By **KATE SAM**
The Baltimore Sun

Kate Sam is director of communications at Habitat for Humanity of the Chesapeake; the thoughts expressed here are her own.



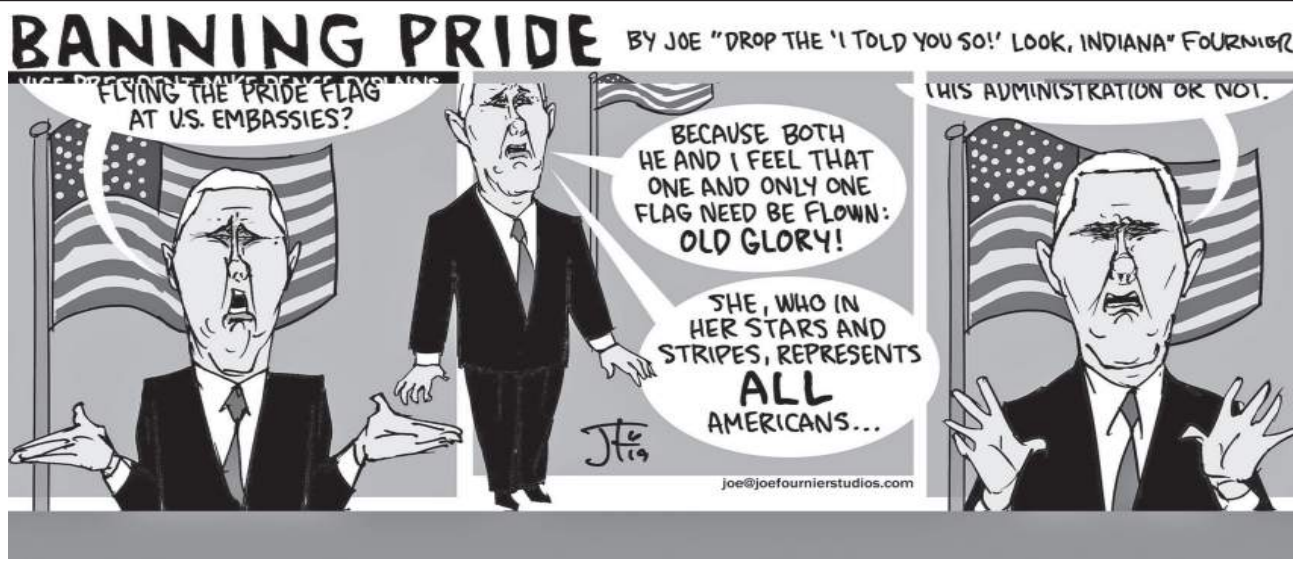
results from this year. How, in a whole year, has this continued?

This crisis should be front page news and front-of-mind daily. We cannot forget that this is not normal, not something to be turned away from because the images and stories are too sad to bear and seemingly beyond our control. We must continue seeking information about how to address this crisis in any and every way possible. For me, that means making humble donations to organizations that are providing legal representation nationally, like the ACLU and RAICES and humanitarian aid, like Kino Border Initiative, the International Rescue Committee and Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service—the latter two of which have offices and employees right here in Baltimore.

As someone who has worked in the nonprofit sector my entire career, I know that even the smallest of gifts (and believe me, with two children, mine are small!), are welcomed gratefully.

For me, addressing this crisis means desperately Googling protests like Lights for Liberty, which will hold candlelight vigils at border facilities and the U.S. Capitol Building on the evening of July 12. It means building relationships with other concerned citizens to ensure that we're thinking of every possible way to help. It means writing daily letters to our elected representatives, who have been far too quiet on this issue. It means posting regularly on social media to keep the conversation alive. And, it means writing an op-ed in The Baltimore Sun.

Whether you agree with current asylum laws (and it is federal law that immigrants have a legal right to seek asylum), surely we must all agree that no fellow human—much less a child—deserves this kind of treatment. We cannot turn away.

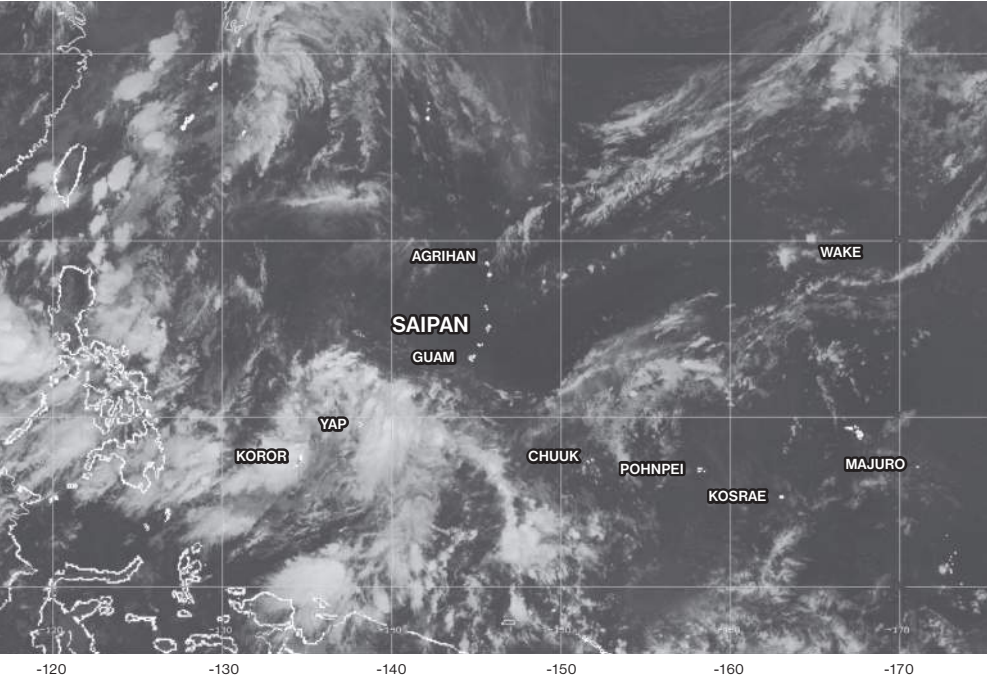


The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY		SATURDAY		SUNDAY		MONDAY		TUESDAY	
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 5 to 15 mph.		Partly cloudy with isolated showers		Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.		Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.		Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	
90°	79°	90°	79°	90°	79°	90°	79°	90°	79°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 5:47 AM, THURSDAY, JUNE 27, 2019

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Dry conditions are seen across the area with the closest deep convection well to the southwest toward Yap along the outer fringes of a broad disturbance. Radar shows just a few light showers locally. Satellite imagery shows a band of thick cirrus just south of Guam pushing southeastward via upper-level northwest winds.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA			▲	▼	°F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	87° / 79°			
Palau	Thunderstorms	85° / 77°			
Yap	Thunderstorms	88° / 80°			
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	86° / 81°			
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	86° / 79°			
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	86° / 79°			
Majuro	Thunderstorms	84° / 80°			

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲	▼	°F
Auckland	Mostly Sunny	57° / 52°			
Beijing	Sunny	97° / 72°			
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	90° / 82°			
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	87° / 76°			
London	Partly Cloudy	75° / 61°			
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	80° / 63°			
Manila	Thunderstorms	88° / 81°			
Melbourne	Rain	57° / 46°			
Miami	Partly Cloudy	88° / 80°			
New York	Mostly Sunny	90° / 74°			
Osaka	Rain	82° / 77°			
Paris	Sunny	91° / 66°			
Busan	Rain	75° / 72°			
Rome	Mostly Sunny	100° / 73°			
Salem	Partly Cloudy	92° / 71°			
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	63° / 51°			
Seoul	Rain	77° / 64°			
Tokyo	Showers	73° / 68°			
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	96° / 77°			



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT & E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
3:26 AM	HIGH TIDE		1.86
10:37 AM	LOW TIDE		0.34
4:57 PM	HIGH TIDE		1.45
10:03 PM	LOW TIDE		0.94

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	5:49 AM	6:50 PM
Saturday	5:49 AM	6:50 PM
Sunday	5:49 AM	6:51 PM
Monday	5:50 AM	6:51 PM
Tuesday	5:50 AM	6:51 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	1:51 AM	2:31 PM	-
Saturday	2:31 AM	3:24 PM	-
Sunday	3:16 AM	4:19 PM	-
Monday	4:04 AM	5:18 PM	-
Tuesday	4:58 AM	6:19 PM	-

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SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Friday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of \$180. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 2, 2019

DEPARTURES			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)			
UA117	9:15am	10:00am	Daily
UA105	6:25pm	7:05pm	2, 4

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)			
7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	1, 3, 5, 7
7C3451	3:30am	6:30am	4

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)			
TW308	1:35am	5:20am	Daily
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	4:45am	8:35am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3403	5:10am	8:55am	1, 7
7C3401	4:10pm	7:45pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)			
3U8648	6:10am	8:50am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)			
JD396	7:30am	12:05pm	1
JD396	4:50pm	7:55pm	4

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)			
3U8646	4:30am	7:50am	2, 6

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)			
MU764	1:30am	6:00am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)			
OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA117/183	9:15am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA117/183	9:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA117/193	9:15am	10:40pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)			
HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:40am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UO43	5:35am	8:25am	1
UO43	5:50am	8:40am	3, 5, 7
UA117/159	9:15am	9:50pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS			
GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA174	7:30am	8:15am	Daily
UA104	4:50pm	5:31pm	2, 4

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	2, 4, 6, 7
7C3452	9:35pm	2:30am+1	3

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
7C3402	09:30am	3:10pm	Daily
TW307	7:00pm	12:35am+1	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
7C3404	10:40pm	4:10am+1	6, 7

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8647	10:20pm	4:50am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN			
JD395	8:05am	3:30pm	4
JD395	8:50pm	5:00am+1	7

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8645	7:50pm	2:40am+1	1, 5

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU763	4:30pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA192/174	9:45pm	8:12am+1	2, 5 via GUM-ROR
UA184/174	10:25pm	8:12am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/174	11:30pm	8:12am+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
HX076	5:20pm	00:30am+1	3, 7
UO42	6:25pm	1:20am+1	7
UO42	9:25pm	4:20am+1	2, 4, 6
UA116/174	10:45pm	8:12am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily

GUAM TO ROTA			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily

1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

One month left to apply for SBA disaster loans

SACRAMENTO, Calif.— Small businesses in the CNMI only have until July 26, 2019, to apply for a U.S. Small Business Administration federal disaster loan for economic injury caused by Super Typhoon Yutu that occurred Oct. 24-26, 2018.

Tanya N. Garfield, director of the U.S. Small Business Administration’s Disaster Field Operations Center-West, gave the reminder in a notice yesterday.

According to Garfield, small nonfarm businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, small businesses engaged in aquaculture and most private nonprofit organizations of any size may apply for Economic Injury Disaster Loans of up to \$2 million to help meet working capital needs caused by the disaster.

“Economic Injury Disaster Loans may be used to pay fixed debts, payroll, accounts payable and other bills that cannot be paid because of the disaster’s impact. Economic injury assistance is available regardless of whether the applicant suffered any property

damage,” Garfield said. These low-interest federal disaster loans are available on Rota, Saipan, Tinian, and the Northern Islands. The interest rate is 3.675 percent for businesses and 2.5 percent for private nonprofit organizations with terms up to 30 years. Loan amounts and terms are set by SBA and are based on each applicant’s financial condition.

Applicants may apply online, receive additional disaster assistance information and download applications at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela>.

Applicants may also call SBA’s Customer Service Center at (800) 659-2955 or email disastercustomerservice@sba.gov for more information on SBA disaster assistance. Individuals who are deaf or hardofhearing may call (800) 877-8339.

Completed applications should be mailed to U.S. Small Business Administration, Processing and Disbursement Center, 14925 Kingsport Road, Fort Worth, TX 76155. **(PR)**

Scheduled power interruptions

There will be scheduled power interruptions on the following dates, times and locations:

Friday, June 28, 2019 – 8:30am to 1:30pm

- ❑ Outage type: Sectionalized feeder outage on the Feeder 7 distribution circuit
- ❑ Village location: As Matuis
- ❑ Area(s) affected: Upper As Matuis
- ❑ Water well(s) affected: Marpi Wells, MQ: 1, 3, 3b, 5, 8, 13-16
- ❑ Water service will be interrupted for the following areas: As Matuis, San Roque and Tanapag
- ❑ Wastewater lift station(s) affected: None
- ❑ Purpose: Site preparation for Omni Rupter switch installation

Friday, June 28, 2019 – 8:30am to 11:30am

- ❑ Outage type: Sectionalized feeder outage on the n Kiya 1 distribution circuit
- ❑ Village location: Dandan
- ❑ Area(s) affected: Dandan and Obyan
- ❑ Water well(s) affected: Obyan Wells, OB: 1-24
- ❑ Water service maybe affected based on tank level for the following areas: Koblerville, San Antonio, Chalan Kanoa, San Jose, Susupe and Chalan Laulau (Beach Road), Lower

Dandan, As Lito, Tottotville, Chalan Monsignor Martinez Road (Shell Dandan to ABCD Market), portions of As Perdido and Adobo Drive in Koblerville

- ❑ Wastewater lift station(s) affected: None
- ❑ Purpose: Site preparation for Omni Rupter switch installation

The purpose of the power interruption is to de-energize utility lines and allow power line workers from the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. to safely prepare for and install two of four Omni Rupter switches at Isley Field in Dandan and As Matuis Village.

The power interruptions are part of CUC and the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s Water System Mitigation program aimed at hardening and strengthening the power distribution system that supplies power to the water wells located at Isley Field in Dandan village.

Because of the scale of work that will be performed, CUC asks travelers to take alternate routes or to exercise caution when driving through the working area.

For more information, contact the CUC Customer Call Center (664-4282) or monitor our Facebook page for the latest updates (<https://www.facebook.com/CommonwealthUtilitiesCorporation/>). **(PR)**

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

GCC board meeting set
The Guam Community College board of trustees’ monthly meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 9, 2019, at 12pm, in the president’s conference room, Building 2000, GCC campus. Individuals requiring special accommodations, auxiliary aids, or services should contact 735-5597. **(PR)**

Bank of Guam Saipan branches will be closed July 13, not July 6
Bank of Guam’s Saipan branches will be closed for one day on Saturday, July 13, 2019, rather than earlier announced for July 6, 2019. The bank’s ATMS, online banking and customer support centers remain available. **(PR)**



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055, SAIPAN MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 • Fax (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY (CPA) is inviting qualified contractors to submit their qualifications and bid proposals for the **TINIAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT PERIMETER FENCE REPLACEMENT, COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS, CPA-TA-001-19.**

Bidders are to submit one original and two copies of their bid which shall be sealed in an envelope and submitted to the office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, at Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, at **2:00 PM, THURSDAY, JULY 11, 2019**, at which time and place the sealed proposals will be publicly opened and read.

The Project, in general, consists of Tinian International Airport Perimeter Fence Replacement all in accordance with the plans and specifications.

Bid proposal and contract documents including plans and specifications, may be obtained at the CPA Accounting, 2nd floor of the Departure Terminal, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950, upon the payment of **ONE HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$150.00)** for each set of plan documents in electronic form (CD) including the bid schedule. This payment is nonrefundable. Payment shall be made in cash, credit card, cashier’s check or U.S. postal money order payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

The Project is being financed by funds from U.S. Federal Aviation Administration and Commonwealth Ports Authority. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within ninety (90) calendar days from the receipt of bids. CPA reserves the right to hold such bids in effect for one hundred twenty (120) calendar days from the date of bid opening.

The contract period for construction of the project shall be **TWO HUNDRED FORTY (240) CALENDAR DAYS**. Liquidated damages in the amount of **TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS PER CALENDAR DAYS (\$200.00)** shall be assessed the contractor if the completion of the Project is delayed beyond the contract time without excuse.

A pre-bid conference will be held at the Tinian Ports Manager’s Office, Tinian International Airport at 10:00 a.m., Thursday, June 27, 2019 to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project.

Questions should be submitted to the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, in writing, seven (7) days prior to the date designated above for the bid opening.

The apparent low bidder may be subject to a thorough and comprehensive review of its qualifications and Bid Documents to ensure that they are “responsive and responsible.” This review will include, but is not necessarily limited to previous project experience, financial capabilities, quality of equipment and personnel, and bonding and insurance. If the apparent low bidder is found not to be “responsive or responsible”, their bid will be rejected and the next lowest bidder will be evaluated for qualifications.

Each proposal shall be on a form furnished by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The bidders are required to use the bid schedule form on the DVD.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bid proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Notice to Bidders; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the procurement contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA’s best interest.

Each bid shall be accompanied by either a bid bond by U.S. Treasury listed or CPA approved surety company, a certified check, or a cashier’s check in the amount not less than **TEN PERCENT (10%)** of the bid price. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All mechanics and laborers for this procurement project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by the CNMI or the U.S. Secretary of Labor, whichever is higher. A copy of the Department of the Federal Labor Wage Rate Determination is included in Section GP70 of the specifications. The bidder shall take into account minimum wage increases that may be imposed in the CNMI over the life of the Contract and include associated costs in the bid proposal. The EEO requirements, labor provisions, and wage rates are included in the specifications, and bid proposal documents are available for inspection at the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All bidders shall comply with all Federal requirements under this Federally funded procurement, including but not limited to Buy American Preference, Foreign Trade Restriction, Davis Bacon, Veteran’s Preference, Affirmative Action and Government wide Debarment and Suspension and Government wide Requirements for Drug-free Workplace. Further details on all Federal requirements are provided in the specifications.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
CPA Executive Director

Date: June 12, 2019



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055, SAIPAN MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 • Fax (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY (CPA) is inviting qualified contractors to submit their qualifications and bid proposals for the **BENJAMIN TAISACAN MANGLONA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT PERIMETER SECURITY FENCE REPLACEMENT - REPACKAGING, COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS, AIP NO.: 3-69-0003-27XX.**

One original and three copies shall be submitted in a sealed envelope or container and delivered to the office of the CPA Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, 2nd floor of the Arrival Terminal at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, on or before **2:00 PM, FRIDAY, JULY 12, 2019**, at which time and place the sealed proposals will be publicly opened and read.

The Project, in general, consists of Rota International Airport Perimeter Security Fence Replacement, all in accordance with the plans and specifications.

Bid proposal and contract documents including plans and specifications, may be obtained at the Commonwealth Ports Authority’s Accounting Office, 2nd floor of the departure terminal, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950, upon the payment of **ONE HUNDRED FIFTY U.S. DOLLARS (\$150.00)** for each set of plan documents in electronic form (DVD). This payment is nonrefundable. Payment shall be made in cash, credit card, cashier’s check or U.S. postal money order payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

The Project is being financed by funds from U.S. Federal Aviation Administration and the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within ninety (90) calendar days from the receipt of bids. CPA reserves the right to hold such bids in effect for one hundred twenty (120) calendar days from the date of bid opening.

The contract period for construction of the project shall be **TWO SEVENTY FORTY (270) CALENDAR DAYS**. Liquidated damages in the amount of **THREE HUNDRED DOLLARS PER CALENDAR DAYS (\$300.00)** shall be assessed the contractor if the completion of the Project is delayed beyond the contract time without excuse.

A pre-bid conference will be held at the Rota Ports Manager’s Office, Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport at **10:00 a.m., Friday, June 28, 2019** to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project.

Questions should be submitted to the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, in writing, seven (7) days prior to the date designated above for the bid opening.

The apparent low bidder may be subject to a thorough and comprehensive review of its qualifications and Bid Documents to ensure that they are “responsive and responsible.” This review will include, but is not necessarily limited to previous project experience, financial capabilities, quality of equipment and personnel, and bonding and insurance. If the apparent low bidder is found not to be “responsive or responsible”, their bid will be rejected and the next lowest bidder will be evaluated for qualifications.

Each proposal shall be on a form furnished by CPA. The bidders are required to use the bid schedule form on the DVD.

It is the Contractors’ responsibility to verify and ensure that the drawings are printed without distortion after printing which may affect sheet size and scale of the design details. Prints shall be the actual intended size of 24” by 36” as initially prepared by the Designer of Record.

Each bid shall be accompanied by either a bid bond by U.S. Treasury listed or CPA approved surety company, a certified check, or a cashier’s check in the amount not less than **TEN PERCENT (10%)** of the bid price. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

CPA reserves the right to reject any or all bid proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Notice to Bidders; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the procurement contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA’s best interest.

All mechanics and laborers for this procurement project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by the CNMI or the U.S. Secretary of Labor, whichever is higher. A copy of the Department of the Federal Labor Wage Rate Determination is included in Section GP-70 of the specifications. The bidder shall take into account minimum wage increases that may be imposed in the CNMI over the life of the Contract and include associated costs in the bid proposal. The EEO requirements, labor provisions, and wage rates are included in the specifications, and bid proposal documents are available for inspection at the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All bidders shall comply with all Federal requirements under this Federally funded procurement, including but not limited to Buy American Preference, Foreign Trade Restriction, Davis Bacon, Veteran’s Preference, Affirmative Action and Government wide Debarment and Suspension and Government wide Requirements for Drug-free Workplace. Further details on all Federal requirements are provided in the specifications.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
CPA Executive Director

Date: June 11, 2019

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax: (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Plaintiff
Marianas Public Land Trust

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST,	Civil Action No. 16-0220
Plaintiff,	
vs.	NOTICE OF AUCTION AND JUDICIAL SALE
ANN DORIS M. BABAUTA,	
Defendant.	

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that under and by virtue of the Order Approving Judicial Sale of Mortgaged Property entered in the above titled action on May 28, 2019, by the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to satisfy the amount found and adjudged due to Plaintiff Marianas Public Land Trust from Defendant Ann Doris M. Babauta, the undersigned counsel or his designee will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, on August 16, 2019, at 10:00 A.M., at the Marianas Public Land Trust Conference Room in Capital Hill, Saipan, the premises and real estate, lying and being on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, described in said judgment, to wit:

Lot No. 011 G 335, containing an area of 788 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Division of Lands and Survey Official Cadastral Plat No. 011 G 06 dated December 1, 1993, Commonwealth Recorder’s File No. 93-4414, dated December 16, 1993.

Terms and Conditions of Sale

1. **Public Sale:** The auction shall be open to the general public
2. **With Reserve:** The auction sale shall be held with reserve.
3. **Rights and duties of Auctioneer:** Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, the auctioneer or his designee shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
 - a. To withdraw the property listed for sale in the public announcement before sale or bid for such property is accepted;
 - b. to adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is sold, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
 - c. to reject any and all bids.
4. **Bids:** Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in the notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the property. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, to Robert T. Torres, Attorney at Law, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: (670) 234-7859; Fax (670) 234-5749; Email: rttlaw@pticom.com.
5. **Deposit and Payment:** A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten days of the auction sale. All payments must be made by cash, money order, or cashier’s check. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the 10% deposit, and any and all of the buyer’s rights, title, and interest in any of the property, which will revert to the Marianas Public Land Trust.
6. **Change of Terms:** Auctioneer and the Marianas Public Land Trust reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause shall be binding on any buyer by the constructive notice.
7. **Inspection and No Warranty.** Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. Contact the Law Office of Robert T. Torres for scheduled viewing and inspection times. The interests of the property are being sold “AS IS” and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment, or rescission by any buyer.

DATED this 10th day of June, 2019.

/s/ ROBERT T. TORRES, F0197
Auctioneer



2019 JOETEN MEMORIAL *Golf Classic*



On behalf of the Board of Trustees of the Joeten Dai Dai Foundation, we would like to extend our UN DANGKULO NA SI YU'US MA'ASE to all the participants, donors, and supporters who made the Joeten Memorial Golf Classic an outstanding success.

We look forward to continue working with you to develop the community we call home.

THANK YOU!

TITLE SPONSOR



THE TRUSTEE'S CLUB



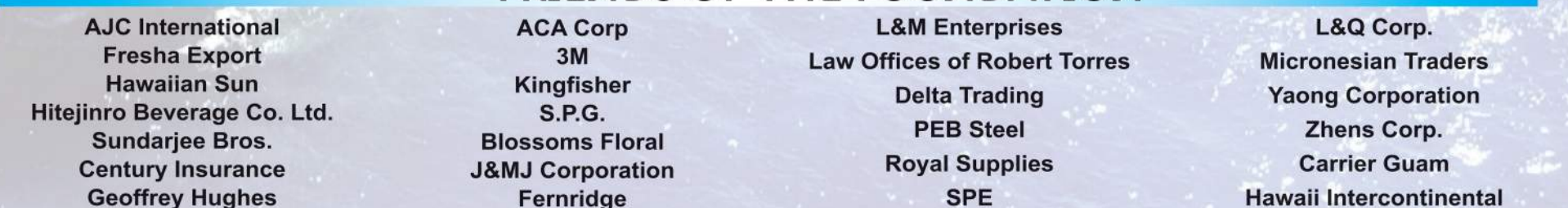
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FRIENDS OF THE FOUNDATION



Business

INAS’ KITCHEN Home of Saipan’s biggest burger

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATED EDITOR

Contrary to popular belief, the famous 3-lb burger at Inas’ Kitchen is not on the Sadog Tasi restaurant’s regular menu. Chef and co-owner Francisco “Sonnie” Sablan said the monster burger is actually made-to-order.

“It happened when someone called us up and asked if we can make them a 3-lb burger for a special occasion...we can actually make any of our burgers—grilled cheese, swiss, and pika—into a monster burger...We just need a day of prep time,” he said during an interview with *Saipan Tribune* yesterday. Sablan said they make the

buns of the monster hamburger themselves and the giant patty takes as much as 30 minutes to grill. The burger comes with a side of French fries—all 5 lbs of it—and bottled water. Sablan said three to four hungry people can wolf down the monster burger. Aside from burgers, Inas’

Kitchen has also become a favorite hangout for its carne asada, tacos, and plate lunches. And while on the topic of plate lunches, Sablan volunteered that the restaurant has actually introduced a lunch plate absolutely perfect for the times. It’s called APL, short for Austerity Lunch Plate, and consists of Inas’ Kitchen’s meat



Inas’ Kitchen’s 3-lb monster burger. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Inas’ Kitchen is located next to the Mobil gas station in Sadog Tasi on the road going up to Capital Hill. MARK RABAGO



Chef Francisco “Sonnie” Sablan, right, poses with Inas’ Kitchen staff. MARK RABAGO

dish of the day, a cup of rice, side salad, and bottled water. Sablan doesn’t want to label Inas’ Kitchen as Tex-Mex cuisine because at its core, the restaurant is a culmination of his journey in the culinary world that has saw him hone his gastronomy skills in restaurants in Oregon, Arizona, and Saipan soon after completing culinary school in Portland. Currently, the restaurant has been a go-to-place for Federal Emergency Management Agency staff on island still helping out with post-Super Typhoon Yutu recovery. Locals and a smattering of tourists make up the rest of Inas’ Kitchen’s clientele. Inas’ Kitchen has also gone green as witnessed by its use of paper bento boxes for lunch and actual dinnerware in the evenings. They are also looking for an alternative for single-use plastic straws, which they currently only provide on customers’ request. Hands on in the kitchen and very focused on good cus-

tomers service, Sablan said even Inas’ Kitchen’s signage has a real meaning to it—the stylized “I” symbolizes a chef’s knife, while the “K” is shaped like the islands’ iconic latte stone. Sablan’s family has always been into food service long before Inas’ Kitchen opened in March 2018. His grandfather, Ignacio DLG Aldan, used to operate a mini café and gas station where McDonald’s Garapan along Beach Road now stands. In fact, Inas’ Kitchen is named after the family patriarch and the burgers and plate lunches are sort of an homage to Ignacio’s old business. Inas’ Kitchen is open lunch time, from 11am to 2pm, Monday-Saturday; and dinner, from 5pm to 8pm, Monday-Wednesday. It is closed on Sunday. It is located next to the Mobil gas station in Sadog Tasi on the road going up to Capitol Hill and comfortably sits 28 people, but can accommodate a party of 50. For orders and reservations, call 488-1627.

Torres Refrigeration, Inc
P.O. Box 500714 CK, Saipan, MP 96950
Phone No: 235-1662/234-6098 • Mobile No. 287-1662
Fax No: 235-1662

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Refrigeration and Air-Con Technician

Opening Date: 6/27/2019 Closing Date: 7/11/2019

Job Duties: Repair or replace parts for residential and commercial air conditioning and refrigeration units and other appliances such as wiring, motors, pumps, switches, lights, fans and thermostats. Inspection and testing of the air conditioning systems to ensure they are working properly. Check the contractor, start/run capacitor(s) and the condenser fan motor. Insure that standard are being complied with and procedures and policies are being followed. This will include maintain a safe work area. Know to use of electrical equipment to test for continuity of circuits and components. Responsible for arranging heating and cooling systems for newly constructed residences and businesses. Proficient in reading blueprints is required since this involves placement of the ductwork and pipes and they must be installed correctly.

Qualifications: Must be a Refrigeration and Air-con Technician, proficient in air-con service and repairs, installation and maintenance. Knowledge in System Testings for proper functioning. Inspection and testing of the air conditioning systems to ensure unit is working properly. Knowledge of use electrical equipment to test for continuity of circuits and components. Knowledge in arranging heating and cooling systems for newly constructed residences and businesses.

Full Time – 80 hours; bi-weekly
Salary Range: \$8.06 per hour Overtime Rate: 1.5

Auto Mechanic

Opening Date: 6/27/ 2019 Closing Date: 7/11/2019

Job Duties: Perform Inspection, Services, and repair of the auto air conditioning system, engines, brakes, and other parts of cars, buses and trucks by checking every component and whole range of vehicle safety systems. Perform routine maintenance to prevent future breakdowns. Change oil and oil filter, check tires, inspect fluids, and examine belts and hoses. Overhauls and repairs engines and transmissions on gas and diesel equipment. Perform tune-ups on vehicles. Overhauls, repairs and / or replaces other vehicle parts. Replace shock absorbers, checks and balances, wheels and checks for proper tires and alignment. Perform diversified electrical work on all automotive and related equipment. Use diagnostic equipment to troubleshoot and repairs or replaces digital electronic components and computers, Fabricates and or reconstructs equipment by using gas, arc, MIG or TIG welding methods. Perform emission control repair, replacement and testing on all required vehicles. Road tests vehicles to locate operational defects prior to returning to active use. Overhauls, repairs, and maintains heavy equipment which may include tractors, crawlers, and the like. Performs auto air-conditioning check and repair, replacing defective air-conditioning parts (compressor, evaporator, condenser) and checking of Freon. Operate shop machines, such as milling and metal lathes, to rebuild or fabricate machine parts.

Qualifications: Must be proficient, know to analyze automotive and auto air-con problems. Knowledge of Car’s mechanical and electronic systems. Must know to operates shop tools and machines. Competence with a variety of electronic tools such as infrared engine analyzers and computers. Operates shop tools and machines Modify, design ad fabricate special purpose equipment.

Certification and Requirements:
High School Diploma. Minimum of 12 months work experience. Communicate fluently in both written and oral form.

Full Time – 80 hours; bi-weekly
Salary Range: \$8.02 per hour Overtime Rate: 1.5

Send Employment Application at Torres Refrigeration, Inc. Office, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday to Friday at Commerce Pl., Airport Road, San Vicente or to mailing address at P.O. Box 500714, by Fax at (670)235-1662 or email to Joseph T. Torres at jttorres@pticom.com.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

WUSHIN CORPORATION

Has an opening for

TANKER TRUCK MECHANIC (LPG Equipment)

JOB DUTIES:
Perform routine maintenance and repair duties involving repair of LPG truck mechanical equipment including internal valves, pumps, remote shutdown, liquid metering system, hose reels, emergency relief valve, and pipings. Inspect, diagnose and locate mechanical difficulties of LPG tank truck, hose, and metering system for accuracy of LPG liquid meter and free of leaks. Maintain pneumatic actuator for emergency shutdown. Layout, repair, install and replace gauge, valves, pressure regulators and related equipment. Inspect and determine repair of tire of all LPG Tank truck. Perform safety inspections on all LPG trucks and ensure repair has been completed before the vehicle leaves the premises. Maintain inventory of equipment and LPG supplies and accessories as necessary. Regular inspections of LPG storage tanks to ensure safety and continuity of LPG supply. Perform LPG line installation at customer's location and assist customer's inquiry. Perform monthly testing of safety equipments such as fire pump, generator, and all emergency shutdown switches. Secure all valves and pump switches to make sure all are off before leaving the premises. Coordinate route and delivery schedule with tank truck drivers. Respond to field emergencies such as customers request for equipment or hose leaks. Perform inbound isotainer clearance. Perform inbound isotainer clearance. Perform related duties as required.

REQUIREMENTS:
Prior experience as tank truck mechanic (lpg equipment) in LPG industry is preferred; has the ability to read and understand various manuals for the purchase of LPG accessories, parts, equipment needed; must have general knowledge in LPG operation and proficient with hazardous materials safety handling; must have knowledge in installation of LPG line and must be able to do leak test. Knowledge of all applicable DOT and Motor Carrier Safety Regulations; Graduate of High School or equivalent and must possess a current and valid CNMI Driver's License.

Salary: \$8.02 - \$9.00 per hour

GENERAL MAINTENANCE

JOB DUTIES:
Repairing and maintenance of LPG tanks and cylinders; maintains, paints, and repairs company-owned equipment which includes LPG tanks, cylinders, valves, and others; Overseeing the safety and cleanliness of the facility; perform discharging of petroleum gas from isotainer tank to company storage tank with proper methods; and perform loading of LPGs from storage tank to the delivery truck or cylinders; read gauges or meters and record quantity discharged or loaded, examined returned cylinders or tanks from customer for surface defects such as dents, cracks, and burns; perform other duties as assigned.

REQUIREMENTS:
Must have knowledge in identifying gas line leakage and damage tank; must have the ability to perform LPG line installation; training certificate in hazardous materials is required; Commercial Driver health certificate is required; must possess a current and valid CNMI driver's license, and police/court clearance is required.

Salary: \$8.11 per hour

BOOKKEEPER

JOB DUTIES:
Establish chart of accounts, and assign entries to proper accounts. Check and verify source of documents such as invoices and receipts. Prepare daily sales report in excel format and enter data to the company's accounting system general ledger. Analyze account data to be posted to generate financial reports. Handle accounts receivable and accounts payable. Send statement of accounts to customer after the month end. Contact customer to notify them of delinquent accounts and accept payment made at the time of contact. Assemble and review vendor's invoices for posting using proper codes. Scheduling and preparing checks for payment to vendors and disburses petty cash by recording entry and verifying documents. Prepare and perform daily bank deposits. Prepare and perform monthly bank reconciliation. Maintain complete filing system to support financial records such as copies of vouchers, invoices or correspondence. Answer orders, inquiries, questions or request from customers in person, on the phone, or by email. Perform any other duties as assigned.

REQUIREMENTS:
An Associate's degree in Accounting or equivalent. Must have knowledge and understanding of bookkeeping practices and procedures. Must have a good communication and multitasking skills, organizational, self-motivation, responsible, and able to manage deadlines. Proficient in MS Word and Excel, and Sage 50 accounting system.

Salary: \$8.84 - \$8.85 per hour

Send your application or resume' to:
WUSHIN CORPORATION
Industrial Drive, Lower Base
PO Box 500440, Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone #s 1670-322-7415 / 8733
E-mail: wushin2@pticom.com
From Monday – Friday, 3:00pm – 5:00pm
Application deadline: July 2, 2019.
The job opportunity is a temporary, full-time position.

Docomo Pacific to launch 1st VoLTE services

TAMUNING, Guam—As part of the rollout of the next generation of wireless technology, Docomo Pacific is preparing to launch the first VoLTE services in Guam and the CNMI.

VoLTE, or Voice over Long-Term Evolution, allows customers to place a phone call over your LTE connection instead of the traditional voice network, resulting in High-Definition (HD) Voice services providing clearer audio quality.

VoLTE lets you experience HD Voice calls with minimal background noise, making it much easier and clearer for both people on a call to hear

components. He said smartphone sales outside China will fall 40%.

Huawei warns US patent curbs would hurt global technology

SHENZHEN, China (AP)—Chinese tech giant Huawei warned Thursday a U.S. senator's proposal to block the company from pursuing damages in patent courts would be a "catastrophe for global innovation."

The proposal comes amid mounting U.S. action against Huawei, the biggest maker of switching gear for phone carriers, amid tension over Beijing's technology ambitions. The company has been devastated by the Trump administration's decision to impose restrictions on its access to American chips for smartphones and other components and technology.

Disrupting Huawei's access to U.S. patent courts would threaten the intellectual property system that supports technology development, said Song Liping, the company's chief legal officer.

The proposal by Sen. Marco Rubio, a Republican from Florida, followed reports Huawei Technologies Ltd. is asking for \$1 billion from American phone carrier Verizon for use of the Chinese company's patents.

"If such a legislative proposal were to be passed, it would be a catastrophe for global innovation. It would have terrible consequences," Song said at a news conference. He said it would "break the foundation of IP protection."

American officials accuse Huawei of facilitating Chinese spying, a charge the company denies, and see it as a growing competitive threat to U.S. technology industries.

Huawei's founder, Ren Zhengfei, said this month it has cut its project sales by \$30 billion over the next two years due to curbs on access to American chips and other

components. He said smartphone sales outside China will fall 40%.

Huawei's U.S. sales of network gear evaporated after a congressional panel labeled the company a security threat in 2012 and told phone carriers to avoid it. But the Chinese company has a patent portfolio it licenses to manufacturers and carriers.

Song gave no confirmation of how much Huawei wants from Verizon or the basis of its claims.

"Intellectual property litigation matters that should be heard and ruled on by courts. They should not be politicized," he said.

Huawei, founded in 1986, has China's biggest corporate research and development budget at \$15 billion in 2018. The company is a leader in developing next-generation telecommunications technology.

On Wednesday, a U.S. federal court jury in Texas ruled Huawei stole trade secrets from a Silicon Valley company but awarded no damages, saying the Chinese company didn't benefit.

The jury rejected Huawei's claims that Cnex Labs Inc. co-founder Yiren Huang stole its technology while he worked at a Huawei subsidiary.

Huawei's head of intellectual property, Jason Ding, said the company was studying the verdict and deciding what to do next.

Asked about a report by Bloomberg News that some Huawei researchers had published papers with Chinese military personnel over the past decade, Song said the company wasn't aware of its employees publishing research as private individuals.

one another. The mixture of voice and data to make calls will produce faster call setup times and quicker connections. Additionally, VoLTE services are less power-intensive than calls being made over a 3G connection, resulting in better battery life.

VoLTE allows the efficient use of network resources, helping to lower operational costs. With the use of VoLTE, voice traffic is routed over the 4G LTE network used to transmit data, freeing up spectrum for the 5G technology

that DOCOMO PACIFIC will launch soon.

Last June 19, Docomo Pacific engineers made the first commercial VoLTE call on Guam and the following day they made the first VoLTE call to Saipan. The commercial launch of VoLTE services will begin to roll-out in July 2019 for VoLTE capable devices on DOCOMO PACIFIC's network. VoLTE services will be an added value to our existing services and will not come at any additional cost.


"Docomo Pacific is excited

to be the first to bring another innovative service that improves the voice quality of calls for our customers in the Marianas. VoLTE is the future of voice communications and we can't wait for our customers to have a higher quality experience while talking with family and friends. As we prepare to launch 5G technology soon, VoLTE is another step in our journey to be the technology leader and bring the best and fastest services to our customers," said Docomo Pacific president and CEO

Roderick Boss.

In March 2019, NTT Docomo was the first to bring 5G to Guam with the opening of the DOCOMO 5G Open Lab Guam. The 5G Open Lab allows worldwide partners including businesses on Guam to test the first 5G environment and co-create practical solutions using 5G.

For more information or media inquiries, feel free to contact Public Relations Coordinator Ken Quintanilla at kvquintanilla@docomopacific.com. (PR)



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055, SAIPAN MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

AMENDED REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Procurement and Installation of a Rotating Beacon
Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport
Project No. CPA-SA-006-19

The Commonwealth Ports Authority is soliciting sealed proposals from qualified companies to remove and dispose of existing rotating beacon and procure and install a brand-new rotating beacon, climbing device, basket, etc. at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport. Proposals are to include procurement, installation and testing of the new beacon with a 1-year warranty and an additional 1-year preventive maintenance services.

The RFP package including the scope of work (SOW) and appendices are available for pick up at no charge at the CPA Administration Office. Project approach and cost must be within the parameters of the established SOW. Any deviation from the SOW, a proposal based on reduced SOW or a proposal that exceeded what is required by the SOW, will be grounds for immediate disqualification of the offeror's proposal package. Proposal submission requirements and contract details are outlined in the SOW.

A site inspection will be conducted on Monday, June 17, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. in order to assess the condition and area and determine equipment and materials needed for the installation. Prospective proposers can meet the Saipan Airport Manager, Mr. William Camacho, at the beacon site at 9:55 a.m.

All proposals are to be submitted in a sealed envelope marked with the respective RFP description to the office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, 2nd floor of the Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, no later than **5:00 p.m., MONDAY, JULY 8, 2019.**

Questions and inquiries regarding this Request for Proposals must be submitted in writing and may be delivered to the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, at the Saipan International Airport, faxed to (670) 234-5962 or emailed to the Saipan Airport Manager, Mr. William Camacho, at bcamacho@cpa.gov.mp.

All proposals shall become property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
CPA Executive Director

Date: June 12, 2019



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
CNMI GOVERNMENT
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Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
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REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION STATEMENTS FOR
ARCHITECTURAL/ENGINEERING DESIGN SERVICES
FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
DEPARTURE AND ARRIVAL TERMINALS EXPANSION
Project No. CPA-SA-005-19

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting statements of professional qualifications from interested Consultants for Architectural and Engineering (A/E) Design Services for the Expansion of the Departure and Arrival Terminals at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands.

The project is being funded by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. This project is in accordance with CPA's Procurement Rules and Regulations and procedures shall be in full compliance with Section 40-50-202 Architect-Engineer Design and Construction Management Services.

The Request for Qualification (RFQ) Package is available at CPA's Office of the Executive Director, 2nd floor of the arrival terminal. No fee is required for obtaining the proposal package.

Questions regarding this request for RFQ statements must be submitted to Ms. Wendi L. Prater, CPA Executive Assistant/Project Manager, at (670) 237-6500 and/or emailed to cpa.engr@pticom.com and wprater@cpa.gov.mp by no later than **5:00 p.m. (CHST) Friday, June 28, 2019.**

The statements of professional qualification will be evaluated based on the criteria available in the RFQ package.

Interested Consultants are requested to submit one (1) original, four (4) copies and one (1) electronic version in .pdf of their statements of professional qualifications no later than **5:00p.m., FRIDAY, JULY 12, 2019.** Statements of qualification must be presented by a combination of both brochures and the use of current U.S. Government Standard Form 330.

The CPA reserves the right to reject any or all statements of professional qualification for any reason, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in its best interest.

Send information to: Mr. Christopher S. Tenorio
Executive Director
Commonwealth Ports Authority
P.O. Box 501055
Saipan, MP 96950-1055

/s/ for CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

Date: June 4, 2019

BOAZ CORPORATION

Has an opening for
ACCOUNT CLERK

Job Duties:
Provide accounting and clerical support to the accounting department. Type accurately, prepare and maintain accounting documents and records. Prepare bank deposit, general ledger posting and statements. Reconcile accounts in a timely manner. Daily enter key date of financial transaction in database. Provide assistance and support to company personnel. Research, track and restore accounting or documentation problems and discrepancies. Inform management and compile reports/summaries on activity areas. Function in accordance with established standard, procedures and applicable laws. Constantly update job knowledge.

Requirements:
Proven accounting experience, preferable as an Accounts receivable clerk or Accounts Payable Clerk. Familiarity with bookkeeping and basic accounting procedures. Competency in MS Office, databases and accounting software. Hand on Experience with spreadsheets and financial reports. Aptitude for numbers. Ability to perform filing and record keeping tasks. Data entry and word processing skills. Well organized. High school degree or Associate's Degree or relevant certification is a plus. Korean/Speaking/reading and writing is a plus to better communicate with Tour Company partners in Korea. A lot of account payable and receivables are from tour agencies from Korea who gave customers to handle while they are in Saipan. Most of this documents are in native Korean language and having an Account Clerk, who can read, write and speak the Korean language would be a great help to our company in making sure each transactions are accurate. In the event that are discrepancies, the Account Clerk would have to verify each transaction with the Korean Tour Agency to reconcile each transaction to ensure accuracies. Language barrier would be a great inconvenience to both our company and our tour agency partner in Korea in making sure each transaction are well documented and reconciled to reflect maximum accuracy.

Salary: \$8.84- \$ 9.38 per hour
Interested applicants Send resume to
boazcorp2017@gmail.com or call 1-670-234-1667
Deadline for applications is July 10, 2019.
This job opportunity is a temporary, full-time position.



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E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION STATEMENTS FOR
ARCHITECTURAL/ENGINEERING DESIGN SERVICES
SAIPAN AIRPORT COMMUTER TERMINAL
Project No. CPA-SA-007-19

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting statements of professional qualifications from interested Consultants for Architectural and Engineering (A/E) Design Services for the demolition of the existing and construction of a new Commuter Terminal Building at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands.

The project is being funded by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. This project is in accordance with CPA's Procurement Rules and Regulations and procedures shall be in full compliance with Section 40-50-202 Architect-Engineer Design and Construction Management Services.

The Request for Qualification (RFQ) Package is available at CPA's Office of the Executive Director, 2nd floor of the arrival terminal. No fee is required for obtaining the proposal package.

Questions regarding this request for RFQ statements must be submitted to Ms. Wendi L. Prater, CPA Executive Assistant/Project Manager, at (670) 237-6500 and/or emailed to cpa.engr@pticom.com and wprater@cpa.gov.mp by no later than **Friday, June 21, 2019, 5:00 p.m. (CHST).**

The statements of professional qualification will be evaluated based on the criteria available in the RFQ package.

Interested Consultants are requested to submit one (1) original, four (4) copies and one (1) electronic version in .pdf of their statements of professional qualifications no later than **5:00p.m., MONDAY, JULY 8, 2019.** Statements of qualification must be presented by a combination of both brochures and the use of current U.S. Government Standard Form 330.

The CPA reserves the right to reject any or all statements of professional qualification for any reason, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in its best interest.

Send information to: Mr. Christopher S. Tenorio
Executive Director
Commonwealth Ports Authority
P.O. Box 501055
Saipan, MP 96950-1055

/s/ for CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

Date: June 4, 2019



PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)
RFP19-CHCC/CGC-016

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: JULY 29, 2019

TIME: 2:00 PM

"DISASTER CASE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM"

COPIES OF THE RFP PACKET MAY BE PICKED UP AT CHCC PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY DIVISION-MEDICAL SUPPLY STORAGE FACILITY LOWER BASE SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THE CHCC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSAL AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL, IF TO DO SO SHALL BE IN THE INTEREST OF THE CHCC. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION.

*Mandatory bidders meeting on July 03, 2019 @ 11:00 am, Saipan time @ CHCC Conference Room #3. *Off-island vendors, please email Subroto Banerji @ Subroto.banerji@dph.gov.mp for a Zoom link.

/s/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/s/ SUBROTO BANERJI
ACTING CHCC DIRECTOR OF P&S

Nation

Better conditions for migrant children at troubled facility

CLINT, Texas (AP)—Migrant children being housed at a Border Patrol facility near El Paso appeared mostly clean and were being watched by hallway monitors on Wednesday, less than a week since they reported living there in squalid conditions with little care and inadequate food, water and sanitation.

U.S. officials opened the building to journalists, offering an inside glimpse of the station in Clint for the first time since lawyers who met with young migrants there told The Associated Press they saw 250 infants, children and teens locked up for up to 27 days in what was designed to be a short-term holding facility.

The lawyers described hearing about and seeing children taking care of children, and at least one sick 2-year-old boy without a diaper who had wet his pants, his shirt smeared in mucus.

On Wednesday, the situation seemed to have improved: children appeared to be wearing clean clothes, and at least a half dozen hallway monitors were brought in to help watch the 117 chil-



Two Border Patrol sub-contractors, "monitors," brought for the first time to care for children walk outside at the Border Patrol station, Wednesday, June 26, 2019, in Clint, Texas.

dren being housed there—less than half the number of young migrants who were crammed into the facility last week.

The children were housed in an industrial garage filled with bunk beds, or in cells with bunk beds and cots that included a bathroom area separated by a cinder block partition. The doors were left unlocked and the kids were free to move around.

Journalists were given a tour of a Border Patrol facility in Texas after an Associated Press report highlighted the squalid conditions, inadequate food and

sanitation issues inside.

"Not ideal, but what we had to do," Matt Harris, the Border Patrol agent in charge of the facility, said about adapting the space that was originally designed to hold adults.

The building still doesn't have a proper kitchen, and the only warm meals were ones that could be cooked in a microwave. Journalists touring the building saw stacks of instant oatmeal and instant noodles. Officials said the children also were being served burritos, and had unlimited access to snacks.

Ex-USC gynecologist charged in sex assaults of 16 patients

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The former longtime gynecologist at the University of Southern California was charged Wednesday with sexually assaulting 16 women at the student health center, the first criminal counts in a case that already has seen USC offer to pay \$215 million to settle potentially thousands of claims.

Dr. George Tyndall, 72, worked at USC for nearly three decades, and news of his arrest on 29 felony charges that could send him to prison for 53 years was welcomed by women who accuse him of misconduct and lawyers representing them.

Some, however, criticized the delay in filing charges after allegations against the doctor first surfaced in May 2018.

Authorities said Wednesday the investigation is continuing and more charges could follow.

"It was time to seek justice," Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey said at a news conference.

In the past year, more than

380 women have reported misconduct by Tyndall, authorities said. Some of the cases fell outside the 10-year statute of limitations, while others did not rise to the level of criminal charges or lacked sufficient evidence to prosecute.

Police took Tyndall him into custody outside his Mid-Wiltshire home and said they found a loaded revolver in his possession.

His attorney, Andrew Flier, said he didn't know about the weapon, adding that Tyndall is not suicidal or a danger to anyone else.

Tyndall was hospitalized at Los Angeles County + USC Medical Center because of chest pains that followed his arrest.

Tyndall has denied any wrongdoing. His lawyers say his interactions with patients were medically appropriate.

"We are very much looking forward to adjudicating this case in a courtroom because of this character assassination," Flier said. "We're going to be able to punch some serious holes in all

these allegations."

Daniella Mohazab, who says Tyndall assaulted her in 2016, called the arrest "a huge step in moving forward."

"I broke down at work today in tears of happiness that Tyndall is behind bars," Mohazab said during a news conference with her attorney, Gloria Allred. "I cannot explain how scared I felt walking around with the thought that I could run into Tyndall at any moment, in a grocery store, coffee shop or park."

Allred said she is representing two of the 16 women in the criminal case but would not say if Mohazab is one of them.

The allegations against Tyndall surfaced months after the conclusion of the closely watched sexual misconduct case against Larry Nasser, a former sports doctor for Michigan State University and USA Gymnastics. He was accused of sexually assaulting hundreds of women and girls and now is serving decades-long sentences for sexual abuse and possession of child pornography.

Asia

N. Korea urges South to stop mediating between North, US

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—North Korea said Thursday that South Korea must stop trying to mediate between Pyongyang and Washington, as it stepped up its pressure on the United States to work out new proposals to salvage deadlocked nuclear diplomacy.

The North Korean statement was an apparent continuation of its displeasure with Seoul and Washington over the stalled diplomacy. But there are no signs that North Korea would formally abandon talks anytime soon as an inter-Korean liaison office in North Korea remains operating and the North still talks about good relations between its leader Kim Jong Un and President Donald Trump.

The statement came two days before Trump visits South Korea for a two-day trip.

There have been no public meetings between the United States and North Korea since the breakdown of the second summit between Trump and Kim in Hanoi in February. Kim returned home empty-handed after Trump refused to provide him with badly needed sanctions relief in return for a limited denuclearization step.

"It's better for the South Korean authorities to mind their own business at home," Kwon said.

The summit's collapse was a blow to South Korean President Moon Jae-in, a liberal who shuttled between Washington and Pyongyang to facilitate talks between the countries to help find a diplomatic settlement of the North Korean nuclear crisis.

Talks of revival of diplomacy, however, has flared after Trump and Kim recently exchanged personal letters. Moon said earlier this week that U.S. and North Korean officials were holding "behind-the-scenes talks" to try to set up a third summit between Trump and Kim. Moon also said talks between the two Koreas have been under way through unspecified "various channels."

On Thursday, Kwon Jong Gun, chief of the North Korean Foreign Ministry's U.S. affairs department, said it will "never go through" South Korea again when it deals with the United States. He also dismissed as false the comments by Moon and other South Korean officials that there are various exchanges and unofficial talks between the two Koreas.

"It's better for the South Korean authorities to mind their own business at home," Kwon said.

Kwon's statement came

after Chinese President Xi Jinping met with Kim during the first Chinese leader's visit to Pyongyang since 2005. Some experts said Xi's trip signaled Beijing, Pyongyang's main ally and aid benefactor, intended to play a greater role as a mediator in the nuclear issue to increase its leverage with Washington over trade disputes.

Kwon also reiterated Kim's previous demand that the United States to come up with acceptable nuclear deals by the end of December.

"(North Korea)-U.S. talks won't be held by themselves if the U.S. is repeating the resumption of dialogue like a parrot without thinking about realistic proposals that are in the interests of both sides," he said.

He still said that North Korea-U.S. relations are proceeding based on the "friendly relations" between Kim and Trump.

The North's Foreign Ministry said Wednesday it won't surrender to U.S.-led sanctions and accused Washington of trying to "bring us to our knees." U.S. officials have said the sanctions would stay in place unless North Korea takes significant steps toward nuclear disarmament.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Malaysia detains 4 Indians, seizes drugs, 5,255 turtles

SEPANG, Malaysia (AP)—Malaysia authorities have arrested four Indians and seized more than 14 kilograms of drugs and over 5,000 turtles from their luggage at the Kuala Lumpur airport. Senior customs official Zulkurnain Mohamed Yusof said Wednesday that agents found a total 5,255 red-ear slider baby turtles kept in small baskets from the luggage of two Indian nationals who flew in from Guangzhou, China on an AirAsia flight on June 20. He said the men had no permits for the turtles and told investigators that the terrapins, estimated to be worth \$12,700, were meant to be sold as pets in India. The men, aged 30 and 42, are expected to be charged and could face up to five years in jail and a fine, he said. The red-ear sliders are one of the world's most

commonly traded turtles meant for the pet and meat markets. Permits are required as young turtles are susceptible to carrying salmonella and pose health concerns. Separately, Zulkarnain said officials also found a total of 14.34 kilograms of methamphetamine worth 717,000 ringgit (\$174,000), hidden in special compartments in boxes that were hand-carried by two men. One of them flew in from Hyderabad, India on June 19 and another on June 20 from Bengaluru, he said in a statement. The men, both aged 30 and believed to be drug mules, are expected to be charged and face the death penalty if convicted.

Australia probes reports of citizen detained in North Korea

CANBERRA, Australia (AP)—The Australian government said Thursday it was "urgently seeking clarification" on reports that an Australian had been detained

in North Korea, which the attorney-general described as a "matter of the utmost seriousness." Media have identified the detained man as Alek Sigley, a 29-year-old university student in Pyongyang. Attorney-General Christian Porter, who is based in Sigley's hometown of Perth, told Perth Radio 6PR: "It is a very unusual set of circumstances." "This particular jurisdiction, most Australians' common sense would tell them, makes this a matter of the utmost seriousness," Porter said. The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade said it was providing consular assistance to the family of an Australian man who has been reported as being detained in North Korea, but did not confirm his identity. "The department is urgently seeking clarification. Owing to our privacy obligations, we will not provide further comment," a department statement said.

World

‘They died in each other’s arms,’ migrant’s mother says

SAN MARTIN, El Salvador (AP)—The mother of a man who drowned alongside his 23-month-old daughter while trying to cross the Rio Grande into Texas says she finds a heartbreaking photograph of their bodies hard to look at but takes some comfort in knowing “they died in each other’s arms.”

Óscar Alberto Martínez Ramírez and his daughter Valeria were swept away by the current near Matamoros, Mexico, and Brownsville, Texas, this week. The grim photo shows the girl tucked inside her father’s shirt for protection with her arm draped over his neck—an image that underscores the dangers migrants and asylum-seekers face trying to make it to the United States and the desperate measures they resort to in the face of policies designed to deter them.

“It’s tough, it’s kind of shocking, that image,” the 25-year-old man’s mother, Rosa Ramírez, told The Associated Press. “But at the same time, it fills me with tenderness. I feel so many things, because at no time did he let go of her.”

“You can see how he protected her,” she said. “They died in each other’s arms.”

Ramírez had shared a sea-green brick home with barred windows in San Martin on the outskirts of the capital, San Salvador, with her son, his 21-year-old wife Tania Vanessa Ávalos and their daughter until the young family decided to make the journey north.

In their working-class neighborhood of about 40,000, Martínez worked in a pizzeria and Ávalos as a cashier in a fast-food restaurant, Ramírez said.

The area has had problems with gang violence but these days it’s calm, she said, adding that he never had any problems with gangs—they left for economic reasons.

Ramírez said that she had given them the big room in the two-bedroom house, but they dreamed of saving money for a place of their own and that drove the family to head for the United States in early April.

“I told him, ‘Son, don’t go. But if you do go, leave me the girl,’” Ramírez said.

“No, mamá,” she said he replied. “How can you think that I would leave her?”

Now she feels a hole that “nobody can fill, but God gives me strength,” she said.

Marta Argueta de Andrade, their 50-year-old neighbor,



In this Sunday, June 23, 2019 photo, Tania Vanessa Ávalos of El Salvador speaks with Mexican authorities after her husband and nearly two-year-old daughter were swept away by the current in Matamoros, Mexico, while trying to cross the Rio Grande to Brownsville, Texas.

said she met the family about five years ago. She described them as “good people,” and Martínez as an easygoing young man.

“I would see him walking with the girl. I called her ‘little curly one,’” Argueta said. “She was very pretty.”

“I would say to those who are thinking of migrating, they should think it over because not everyone can live that American dream you hear about,” Ramírez said.

“We can put up a fight here,” she added. “How much I would like to have my son and my granddaughter here. One way or another, we get by in our country.”

The U.S.-Mexico border region has long been perilous

for those trying to cross illegally into the United States between ports of entry, from the fast-moving Rio Grande to the scalding Sonoran Desert. A total of 283 people died while trying to cross last year; figures for 2019 have not yet been released.

On Sunday, Martínez decided to make that journey, swimming with Valeria from Matamoros to the Texas side of the Rio Grande, where he

left her on the riverbank and started back to get his wife. Seeing him leave, the girl threw herself into the water. Martínez returned to get her, but both were swept away. Ávalos was not harmed.

Tamaulipas immigration official Enrique Maciel said Ávalos was “in a total shock” and would not be speaking to reporters. Covered in white sheets, the two bodies were placed into a morgue van to be driven to a funeral home. Ávalos was to fly back to El Salvador with them the following day.

Maciel said Ávalos had family in the United States and had hoped to reunite with them.

“She is afflicted. She is suffering. It is a dream they had to get ahead as a family, the three of them, and she returns in mourning with only the bodies of her family,” Maciel said.

He urged the governments of Mexico and the United States to view migration as people seeking life solutions, not a “trespassing problem.”

“The governments should respect and protect migration,” Maciel said.

News of the drownings, and the shocking photo, resonated in El Salvador among those considering heading north as part of what has been a surge of people from that country, Guatemala and Honduras fleeing poverty and violence.

Paris prosecutor: no sign Notre Dame fire of criminal origin

PARIS (AP)—A preliminary investigation found no evidence to suggest that a fire that gutted large parts of Notre Dame Cathedral was criminal, the prosecutor’s office said Wednesday.

The prosecutor’s office said in a statement that several hypotheses about the cause of the April 15 blaze include a malfunctioning electrical system or a smoldering cigarette—to be further investigated in a new probe.

The prosecutor’s office announced the opening of a judicial investigation led by three judges for “involuntary degradation by fire through manifestly deliberate violation” of security rules or simple imprudence. It targets “X,” meaning anyone or any entity suspected.

The 13th-century cathedral was under renovation at the time of the fire and scaffolding crisscrossed the back of the edifice where the spire was once located.

The fire tore through the roof, destroying the spire which toppled in flames and vast sections of the interior. It has left the crippled monument, once a major tourist attraction, barricaded to the public and the faithful.

In the preliminary investigation, judicial police examined more than 1,200 clues and heard testimony from around 100 people.

“If certain deficiencies, by which the size of the disaster could be the consequence, were made clear, the investigations have not thus far allowed us to determine the causes of the fire,” the prosecutor’s office said.

As the detective work continues, workers are taking on what officials have said is one of the most complex operations—cutting down the 50,000 tubes of scaffolding erected for the initial pre-fire renovation. The tubes reached more than 800 C (1,472 F) during the fire, according to a statement Wednesday by the Notre Dame Foundation.

French President Emmanuel Macron has said he wants the renovations completed in five years. Paris hosts the Summer Olympics in 2024, but numerous experts question whether the cathedral can be operational by then.

The costs of the gargantuan task of renovating the monument won’t be known until Spring 2020, but they are bound to be as colossal as the

cathedral—and current headaches over payments. However, some relief was in sight.

The Notre Dame Foundation announced Wednesday that major French donors, Bernard Arnault, his family and luxury giant LVMH Group have made an initial payment of 10 million euros on a pledge of 200 million as have Francois and Francois-Henri Pinault who pledged 100 million. No funds had previously been forthcoming.

The Notre Dame Foundation said the initial payments were made “at the initiative” of the foundation. However, word that two of France’s richest men were finally issuing funds came after The Associated Press and others reported this month that major French donors weren’t paying into their pledges but instead waiting to see how the funds would be used.

The Notre Dame Foundation’s Cathédrale de Paris Fund has so far raised 396 million euros in donations and pledges. But pure donations to pay companies working on the site total 38 million euros—coming from 42,000 individuals plus 60 companies and public authorities, the foundation said.

US warns Turkey it faces sanctions if it buys Russian system

BRUSSELS (AP)—Acting U.S. Defense Secretary Mark Esper made it clear to Turkey on Wednesday that it will face economic sanctions if it goes ahead with the purchase of a Russian missile defense system, as the standoff between the two NATO allies dragged on.

Esper met with Turkish Defense Minister Hulusi Akar during a NATO meeting, delivering a familiar U.S. message: If Turkey buys the Russian S-400 system, it will not be allowed to buy the high-tech F-35 fighter jet. The meeting, however, ended with no discernable results.

A senior defense official traveling with Esper said the two men had a frank and candid discussion, but the meeting resulted in no movement or change of position on either side. The official spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss a private meeting.

Turkey has said that it won’t bow to U.S. ultimatums and that the S-400 purchase is a done deal. The U.S. has re-

peatedly said that the Russian system is a threat to the fighter jet and that Turkey will be dropped from the F-35 program if it buys the S-400. U.S. officials have encouraged Turkey to buy the American-made Patriot missile defense system instead.

Speaking to reporters traveling with him to the NATO meeting, Esper, who took over as acting defense chief on Monday, said his message is pretty straightforward. “Turkey has been a longstanding and trusted partner and ally for many, many years,” he said. “The pursuit of the S-400 undermines that.”

The U.S. has already stopped training Turkish pilots on the F-35, and given Ankara until the end of July to get its personnel out of the U.S.

U.S. officials said Esper also told Akar during the meeting that until Turkey takes possession of the Russian system, there’s an opportunity to turn things around.

The session between Esper and Akar is viewed as a pre-

cursor to the expected meeting between U.S. President Donald Trump and Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan during the Group of 20 meeting in Japan later this week.

Erdogan told reporters in Ankara on Thursday that Trump in their discussions has not given him the impression that the United States would impose sanctions on Turkey. He repeated that the deal with Russia has been sealed and that Turkey was now waiting to take delivery of the S-400 systems.

“If NATO allies are now imposing sanctions on each other, I don’t know anything about that,” Erdogan said. “These are not impressions I got from the talks I have had with Mr. Trump until now.”

Erdogan has said that the training of Turkish personnel on the S-400 is finished and that the delivery of the system will take place in the first 15 days of next month. He said he also hopes to use the Trump meeting to dissuade the U.S. from imposing sanctions.

Off The Wall

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Woman uses shovel to kill cobra slithering on her patio
FAIRLESS HILLS, Pa. (AP)—A Pennsylvania woman used a shovel to kill a cobra she saw slithering on the patio of her apartment. Kathy Kehoe said the squawking of some blue jays outside her unit caught her attention Monday. When she looked outside, she saw a 4 to 5-foot-long serpent. The 73-year-old Kehoe says she noticed the lateral spot

commonly found on cobras, grabbed a shovel and nudged its tail. When it rose and spread its hood, she realized it was a cobra. That’s when she decided to kill it. “I knew what I was doing was dangerous, I’m not a fool,” she said in a phone interview on Tuesday. “I just acted. I thought of the kids and other people in this community and I said ‘I can’t let this thing get away.’” Her apartment complex in Fairless Hills, about 30 miles northeast of Philadel-

phia, is the same one where officials removed 20 venomous snakes from another apartment in March. Officials aren’t sure if the cobra had escaped from that unit. Wildlife officials say people who spot snakes should call police and let experts handle the situation.

UK study shows seal singing ‘Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star’
LONDON (AP)—Researchers in Scotland say gray seals

can copy the sounds of human words and songs including “Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star.” The study by University of St. Andrews researchers showed that three trained seals were able to imitate parts of popular tunes. The research team’s findings were published Thursday, including video footage of the seals. The study gave the researchers a better understanding of the evolution of vocal learning and human language development. It

also suggested that gray seals could be a new model to study speech disorders since they use their vocal tracts the same way as humans.

Some Miami Beach residents fed up with smelly seaweed
MIAMI BEACH, Fla. (AP)—One of Florida’s most famous beaches has had an unwelcome guest for the past several years—smelly, brown seaweed—and now residents want something done about it. Some Miami Beach residents are so fed up with the seaweed’s washing up ashore that they’re pressing Miami-Dade County officials to come up with a solution to remove the brown nuisance. The Miami Herald reports the seaweed appearance is naturally occurring, but last year it showed up in record numbers. Unlike toxic algae blooms or red tide, the seaweed doesn’t kill marine life, but swimmers find it annoying. Scientists speculate the seaweed blooms on Miami Beach, and elsewhere in South America and the Gulf of Mexico, are connected to rising ocean temperatures and increased nutrients from fertilizers flowing into the ocean.

lab, almost two weeks after driver Michael Crocker rolled over his SUV off the historic Route 66 in Flagstaff, Arizona. Crocker was airlifted to a hospital in Phoenix after crashing his GMC Yukon Denali on May 14 but Bella was nowhere to be found. Cocker and Bella were on a cross-country trip from Alabama to Southern California. A Humane Animal Rescue and Trapping Team member found the whimpering pup not too far from the crash site of broken glass and car parts. Officials say Crocker and Bella are recovering together in Southern California.

Postal service returning decade-old stolen Hawaii mail

HONOLULU (AP)—The U.S. Postal Service says it has found mail stolen in Hawaii more than a decade ago. KHON-TV reported Monday that the family of a now-deceased postal worker discovered the stolen mail inside a storage unit and turned them over to officials. The postal service says the stolen mail is being sent back in the next couple of days. The mail dates back about 13 to 15 years ago. The stolen mail was mostly First-Class and Priority Mail and newspapers and magazines. Officials haven’t identified the postal worker or his or her route. Most of the mail belonged to people living in the downtown Honolulu area. The postal service says stolen mail that’s returned will have a label explaining the item’s delay and a number to call.

Police arrest man accused of stealing 26 street signs

GEORGIA, Vt. (AP)—Deputies have arrested a Vermont man who is accused of stealing more than two dozen street signs. Mynbc.com reports 19-year-old Joshua Hanselman has been charged with larceny and unlawful mischief after acknowledging that he and others stole the 26 street signs. The signs were stolen between April and May from the towns of Georgia and Fairfax. Charges against the other individuals involved are pending. Hanselman told deputies the group stole the signs so they could display them in their homes. Authorities said Hanselman was ordered to appear in court July 15. The Franklin County sheriff’s office is working with the office of the state’s attorney to determine if other charges will be filed. A number for Hanselman could not be found and it was unclear if he has an attorney.

Rocky the escaped African cat spotted again in Virginia

FRANKLIN, Va. (AP)—The exotic African cat that escaped from its owner’s house has been spotted again in Virginia, this time more than 150 miles (240 kilometers) from its North Carolina home. The cat’s owner previously told news outlets his pet, Rocky, escaped from his coastal North Carolina home in October. Since then, Rocky has been on the move and evading capture, spotted in cities across Virginia—first, in a state park in April, later in rural Chesapeake and just this week near Suffolk. A Virginia Beach animal control agent told The Virginian-Pilot she has spent hours trying to trap the elusive cat. But African servals are known for their athleticism, both in their ability to travel over 20 miles (32 kilometers) a day, and being able to run 50 mph (80 kph).


Puppy who disappeared after crash found 13 days later

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. (AP)—A recently adopted puppy that disappeared after her owner crashed in Arizona survived 13 days in the mountains and has been reunited with her owner. The Arizona Daily Sun reports volunteers found Bella, a 4-month-old mixed yellow

Always in our Thoughts, Forever in our Hearts

Joseph Francis John White

March 9, 1952 - June 20, 2019.



Predeceased by:

Parents: Joseph & Brigid White

Parents In-Law: Francisco T. and Rosa C. Torres

Brothers and Sisters-In Law:
Pedro C. Torres
Jose C. Torres
Bernadita C. Torres
John D. Tuncap
Felix A. Sablan

Survived by:

Wife: Maria Torres White

Children:
Tara Elizabeth White Lubrani & Johnpaul Lubrani (Malia, Jude, Maia)
Sean Patrick Torres White & Kimberly A. White (Peter John & Aubrey Paige)
Joseph Francisco Torres White & Leana V. Camacho (John Vincent)
Joseph Francisco Dela Cruz White

Brothers and Sisters-In-Law:
Juanita M. Torres and Children
Evelyn Blas and Children
Nancy Torres and Children
Francisco & Annie Torres and Children
Evelyn & Raymond Terlaje and Children
Dolores Torres & Michael Dahilig and Children
Anita T. Sablan and Children
Ramon & Jenny Torres and Children
Antonio Torres & Elizabeth Shinohara and Children
Roque C. Torres and Children
John & Sheila Torres and Children

Best friend: Noel Mohan

He will also be greatly missed by his family in Ireland, England, Australia, Canada and the U.S, numerous friends around the world, and the TSA family.

Nightly mass is being offered at 6pm at San Antonio Church followed by rosary up until Friday, June 28, 2019.

On Saturday, June 29, 2019, our dearly beloved will be escorted to San Antonio Church for the Mass of Christian Burial at 10 a.m. Your thoughts, prayers, and presence is greatly appreciated.

Thank You and Si Yu'us Ma'ase!
Maria Torres White, Children, and Family

Science & Technology

Tech makes it easier to search wilderness for missing people

HONOLULU (AP)—Yesenia D'Alessandro loaded a GPS tracking app on her cellphone and trudged into a remote Hawaii forest, joining more than 100 other volunteers looking for a missing hiker.

She climbed through muddy ravines, crossed streams and faced steep drop-offs in the thick tangle of trees and ferns where her college friend Amanda Eller vanished last month.

"You have to search everywhere," said D'Alessandro, who flew in from Maryland. "You have to go down to that stream bed, even though you don't want to. She could be down there."

D'Alessandro and others gathered GPS data of the ground they covered, and organizers put it on a specialized digital map to help better understand where to look next.

The technology led volunteers to Eller, who was found next to a waterfall and survived for 17 days in the Maui forest by eating plants and drinking stream water. Her dramatic rescue shows how emerging technology helps search teams more efficiently scour the wilderness for missing people.

"It kind of led us to search outside of that high-priority area to where we actually found Amanda," her father, John Eller, said.

More U.S. teams are turning to the technology that combines cellphone GPS with digital maps detailing cliffs, caves, waterways and other hard-to-search terrain. It helps manage the work of large numbers of volunteers.

The system showed when Hawaii searchers had covered a 2-mile (3-kilometer) radius

around Eller's car. After that, searchers sent a helicopter farther into the forest, where they spotted the 35-year-old physical therapist and yoga instructor.

"We never would have pushed out if we hadn't searched the reasonable area first. There's no reason to start reaching further and further out of the box if we hadn't completely searched the box," said Chris Berquist, a volunteer search leader.

David Kovar, advocacy director for the nonprofit National Association for Search and Rescue, said most search and rescue teams use digital maps. That could mean anything from basic Google Maps to specialized software called SARTopo, which California search and rescue experts used to advise Maui volunteers from afar.

TECH BYTES

Apple buys more self-driving car technology in latest deal

CUPERTINO, Calif. (AP)—Apple has bought a struggling self-driving car startup as the iPhone maker continues to explore the potential market for robotic vehicles, despite recently curtailing its work on the technology. The Cupertino, California, company confirmed its acquisition of Drive.ai Wednesday without disclosing the price. A recent filing with California labor regulators disclosed that Drive.ai planned to close its doors this Friday, laying off 90 workers. Apple didn't say whether its deal included the engineers who were set to lose their jobs with Drive.ai. Apple trimmed the size of its own self-driving car division in January when it reportedly eliminated more than 200 jobs in the division. The deal gives Apple the rights to Drive.ai technology deployed in self-driving vans that had been giving short-distance rides in two Texas cities, Arlington and Frisco. Uber, meanwhile,

confirmed Wednesday that it acquired a self-driving technology company called Mighty AI. As part of that deal, 40 employees from Mighty AI's Seattle office will work at the ride-hailing giant's Seattle engineering facility.

Denver airport drivers get stuck in mud using Google Maps

DENVER (AP)—Denver drivers using Google Maps to get to the city's airport last weekend and trying to avoid a traffic jam were sent on a detour that took them down a narrow, muddy dirt road. Connie Monsees told KMGH-TV there were about 100 cars on Sunday lined up on the road. She says some cars got stuck behind others that could not move and that other vehicles could not make it across several deep ditches. Monsees says she used her all-wheel drive vehicle to help two strangers get to the airport. Google told ABC News that it works to provide the best directions but that issues can arise due to factors such as weather and it encourages driv-

ers be attentive and use their best judgment.

SpaceX launches hefty rocket with 24 satellites, experiments

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP)—SpaceX launched its heaviest rocket with 24 research satellites Tuesday, a middle-of-the-night rideshare featuring a deep space atomic clock, solar sail, a clean and green rocket fuel testbed, and even human ashes. It was the third flight of a Falcon Heavy rocket, but the first ordered by the military. The Defense Department mission is expected to provide data to certify the Falcon Heavy—and reused boosters—for future national security launches. It marked the military's first ride on a recycled rocket. Both side boosters landed back at Cape Canaveral several minutes after liftoff, just as they did after launching in April. But the new core booster missed an ocean platform, not unexpected for this especially difficult mission, SpaceX noted.

What you can turn off to save PC resources

Q: In a recent column (see tinyurl.com/y56nzebs), you advised readers to conserve PC processing power and memory by using the Windows "Task Manager" to turn off unneeded PC "processes." How can I tell what's unneeded?

A: The column you mention was about the possible causes of a sluggish PC, one of which is too much software running in the background.

If too much software is the problem, the Windows Task Manager (press the Ctrl, Alt and Del buttons and choose Task Manager) allows you to:

■ Turn off whatever PC process is using the most processing power (the CPU column) or the most computer chip memory (the Memory column.)

■ Turn off PC processes that have recognizable names, such as "Google Chrome" or "Dropbox."

But many of the PC processes listed in Task Manager have bizarre names such as "igfxEM Module," so it's hard to know whether it's safe to turn them off. To deal with them, you can use an alternative to Task Manager that limits how many PC processes are started up when the computer is turned on.

That can be done by using the Windows "system configuration utility." By changing a setting there, you can make sure that only Microsoft software starts up automatically when the PC is switched on. To try it, see tinyurl.com/y4jyh4xs and scroll to bullet point three. Keep scrolling to find

TECH Q&A

By **STEVE ALEXANDER**

Star Tribune (Minneapolis)



Steve Alexander covers technology for the Minneapolis Star Tribune. Readers may write to him at Tech Q&A, 425 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn. 55488-0002; email: steve.j.alexander@gmail.com. Please include a full name, city and phone number.

"system configuration utility" in blue lettering. Follow the directions for changing the "startup selection" from "normal startup" to "selective startup."

What are the practical effects of limiting the number of startup programs this way?

■ Non-Microsoft programs won't become active until you click their icons to start them.

■ Any non-Microsoft firewall or antivirus software won't be turned on. But that's less of a problem than it appears to be, because Windows 8 and 10 automatically activate their own firewall and antivirus software. If you have Windows 7, download the free Microsoft Security Essentials for antivirus protection (see tinyurl.com/juupxbx) and make sure the Windows 7 firewall is turned on (see tinyurl.com/y5wb9bqb).

Q: Computer technicians can't find a missing folder containing 200 e-mails that were sent to the Outlook.com address of our non-profit organization. What can we do?

A: The e-mails may be lost. But there are two places to look.

■ If your e-mails were backed up in a Windows file, open Windows Explorer (File Explorer in Windows 10.) In the search box at the upper right, type "@outlook.com" without the quotation marks. The PC will search your hard drive for any e-mails sent to an Outlook.com account.

■ If your e-mails were stored in an Outlook.com mailbox, look at the left side of the screen for a folder created specifically for saved e-mails.

If there isn't a special folder, look in the inbox. Take advantage of the fact that e-mails are listed from newest to oldest; scroll to the end of the list and work backward. Use the "arrival date" of each e-mail to narrow the search.

If that doesn't work, try restoring deleted e-mail messages (see tinyurl.com/yyg62caq).

Steve Alexander covers technology for the Minneapolis Star Tribune. Readers may write to him at Tech Q&A, 425 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn. 55488-0002; email: steve.j.alexander@gmail.com. Please include a full name,

IN CELEBRATION OF HER NEW LIFE

Nieves Lizama Babauta

Lovingly known as "Ebi"

Born to life: March 14, 1948
Called to Eternal life: June 22, 2019

In her new life, she now joins her:
Parents: †Joaquin Dela Cruz Babauta & †Rufina Lizama Babauta

Brothers/Sisters & In-laws:
†Felix L. Babauta & †Juana C. Babauta
†Serafin L. Babauta
†Benjamin L. Babauta
†Dolores B. Castro & †Marceliano Castro
†Soledad B. Pangelinan & †Jose Pangelinan
†Maria L. Babauta & †Jose San Miguel
†Augustin M. Castro

Her memories will be forever live in the hearts of her:

Children & Families:
Jacqueline B. /Adrian San Nicolas (Erlinda, Eloy/Serena, Elexia, John)
John Michael /Melissa C. Babauta (Myisha, Edward John/ Aubrin, Nicole, John Michael Jr.; Quinci, Adrian, Nyla)
Christine Joan Babauta (Adrienne, John Pedro, Terry Jonathan)

She will be greatly missed by her:
Sister/brother & In-laws:
Rita B. Castro & Family, Juan L. & Manuela A. Babauta & Family, and Araceli A. Babauta & Family

She is additionally survived by her numerous nieces, nephews and godchildren.

Daily Mass of Intention for the repose of her soul is being celebrated at 6:00 p.m. except Saturday, 6:00 a.m. and Sunday 7:00 a.m. & 9:00 a.m. at San Roque Church.

Funeral Services will be held on Monday, July 1, 2019. Her remains will be escorted from Nuestra Senora dela Paz Memorial Chapel at 8:30 a.m. to San Roque Church. Responso Service and prayers will take place upon arrival. Mass of Christian Burial at 10:00 a.m. followed by Interment Services at Santuario Pax Memorial Gardens, Kagman, where she will be peacefully laid to rest.

Thank you, Si Yu'us Ma'ase and May God Bless us all
Children and families of the late †Nieves Lizama Babauta

Life & Style

'The Office' to leave Netflix as streaming battles heat up

NEW YORK (AP)—Netflix is losing its most popular TV show, “The Office,” in a sign of things to come as more TV and movie makers start their own streaming services and take back their offerings.

In a tweet Tuesday, Netflix said it was “sad” that NBC said it no longer license “The Office” to Netflix, but added that Netflix will still have it for the next year and a half. NBCUniversal’s streaming service is due to start in 2020. Starting in January 2021, the yet-unnamed NBC service will be the exclusive home in the U.S. of all nine seasons of the sitcom, which follows the hapless employees of the Dunder Mifflin paper company.

Although Netflix has been emphasizing original shows and movies, previously televised shows such as “The Office” are still popular, especially as people abandon traditional pay TV providers like cable and rely on streaming for such shows. “The Office” was the most viewed show on Netflix in 2018, streamed for over 52 billion minutes, according to Nielsen. That equates to nearly 15 hours for each of Netflix’s 58.5 million



In this Feb. 22, 2009, file photo shoppers watch the television show “The Office” as they compare wide screens on display at Costco in Mountain View, Calif.

U.S. subscribers. “Friends” was No. 2 and “Greys Anatomy” was No. 3.

Producers of such shows have been happy for the extra revenue they get for licensing shows to Netflix and similar services. But those partners are morphing into competitors as content makers like NBCUniversal, Disney and WarnerMedia create their own services to vie for Netflix’s viewers. Apple is also building

its own streaming service with original shows from Oprah and Steven Spielberg.

These content companies are hoping to build viable streaming businesses—though it’s not clear how much revenue they’ll get from them at first. For that reason, these companies have to weigh whether it’s worth losing revenue from the likes of Netflix in the short run.

Disney, which is launching

its own service by the end of the year, has told investors that it expects a \$150 million operating loss for the fiscal year ending in September because of the forgone licensing revenue. And WarnerMedia reportedly got \$100 million for Netflix to license “Friends” for 2019 alone, money it will lose if it takes the show back for its service as expected.

Owners of TV shows and movies typically license their videos to third-party services for a certain amount of time. Netflix’s licensing deal for “The Office” is set to expire in 2020. NBCUniversal bought the rights back to use on its own service beginning in January 2021.

NBCUniversal did not disclose financial terms, though

published reports say NBCUniversal bid \$100 million per year for five years to keep the show in-house, more than what Netflix and others were offering. It’s an internal bid in which the streaming business will acquire the rights from another division, the

Universal studio.

Experts say the new services, except perhaps Disney’s, are not likely to draw the numbers that Netflix has spent years building, as consumers suffer streaming fatigue. Netflix has 139 million paid subscribers worldwide.

Cuba Gooding Jr.’s request to toss groping case is denied

NEW YORK (AP)—A judge rejected Cuba Gooding Jr.’s bid to throw out his New York City groping case so he can continue working, saying Wednesday that she needed time to review written arguments and didn’t want to make a rash decision.

Judge Keisha Espinal said she wouldn’t rule on the actor’s request to dismiss the misdemeanor case until Aug. 14, dashing his and his lawyers’ hopes of swiftly scotching 2-week-old charges that he grabbed a woman’s breast at a Manhattan bar, which he denies.

The Oscar-winning “Jerry Maguire” star’s upcoming film projects could be in jeopardy if the case drags on and he has to shuttle between his Hollywood home and a Manhattan courthouse for hearings and a trial, defense lawyer Mark Heller argued.

“Mr. Gooding’s life is put on hold. It’s on a pause button,” Heller told Espinal during the 10-minute hearing. “It’s urgent that this matter be dismissed as quickly as

possible.”

Swarmed by cameras outside the courthouse, Gooding smiled and nodded when asked whether he thought the case would ultimately be dismissed. He did not comment on the proceedings. Espinal ordered him to return for the August hearing.

As Gooding waited for his ride, a passerby yelled out a remix of his most famous movie line, shouting: “Show us the money, Cuba!”

Gooding, 51, is accused of placing his hand on a 29-year-old woman’s breast and squeezing it without her consent at Magic Hour Rooftop Bar & Lounge near Times Square on June 9. The woman told police she believed Gooding was intoxicated.

Gooding was arrested four days later after turning himself in to police. He pleaded not guilty to forcible touching and sexual abuse charges at a night arraignment and was released on his own recognizance after about six hours in police custody.

Britney Spears’ conservatorship sues blogger for defamation

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The conservatorship that oversees Britney Spears’ personal life and career sued the creator of a blog devoted to the pop superstar Wednesday in an increasingly aggressive effort to push back against the so-called “Free Britney” movement, which alleges the singer is being controlled against her will.

The lawsuit filed in Los Angeles alleges that Anthony Elia, who runs the website Absolute Britney, has falsely claimed the court-ordered conservatorship has manipulated Spears’ Instagram account to make her appear more troubled and in need of help than she actually is.

“It is time for the conspiracy theories about Britney Spears’ well-being and the mob #FreeBritney movement to stop,” the lawsuit states in its opening line.

Elia’s blog and its social media accounts have played a key role in the “Free Britney” phenomenon, a group of fans who say on social media and in public protests that the singer is being controlled against her will by her father Jaime,

who serves as her conservator, and that she is surreptitiously seeking help to free herself.

The suit alleges that Elia “has made it his mission to spread false and malicious lies on the internet about Britney, her conservatorship and her team, including that those around Britney are harming her and not acting in her best interests.”

A message sent through the blog and an email seeking comment from Elia were not immediately returned.

The suit comes two weeks after the conservatorship for similar reasons sought and received a five-year restraining order against Spears’ former manager Sam Lutfi. It prohibits him from trying to undermine the conservatorship by contacting members of the Spears family or writing disparaging posts on social media.

A conservatorship, known in some states as a guardianship, is normally reserved for those who are severely debilitated. One was established for Spears 11 years ago during her very public meltdown, and

has been kept in place ever since. The arrangement has increasingly come under attack from fans, who have grown especially loud about it in recent months.

Spears has offered little public comment on the conservatorship. At her request, she addressed the judge who oversees it in court last month. The hearing was closed and it’s not clear what Spears said, but the judge ordered a court review of her situation before another hearing in September.

The suit focuses on a June 14 Absolute Britney Instagram post that alleges the conservatorship was seeking to manipulate Britney Spears’ Instagram account.

“Britney’s team is deleting positive comments on her Instagram post and leaving negative ones to keep up the illusion that she needs help!” the post says. “This has to be a human rights violation!!!!”

The post, which the suit calls “false and defamatory,” was discussed by bigger blogs and some media outlets. Elia shared some of those reports.

The suit seeks unspecified damages and a court injunction permanently prohibiting Elia from spreading information on the subject.



Spears

At 50, Watts relishes plethora of rich roles

NEW YORK (AP)—It’s often said that actresses have trouble finding meaty roles as they get older, but at age 50, Naomi Watts is flourishing, with two key projects that share a common theme—strong women determined to have their voices heard.

On Sunday, Watts will be seen in the Showtime limited series “The Loudest Voice,” where she stars as Gretchen Carlson in the dramatization of the sexual harassment scandal around the late head of Fox News, Roger Ailes.

Watts also stars in the film “Ophelia,” which will be in theaters June 28 and on video on demand and digital on July 2. It’s a retelling of Shakespeare’s “Hamlet” with a different perspective. Directed by Claire McCarthy, written

by Semi Chellas and adapted from Lisa Klein’s book, it’s a female-driven project—which was part of the appeal for Watts.

“We’ve put to bed that theory that, you know, you age out after 40,” she said in a recent interview with The Associated Press. “It’s a great time for women of my age. So that’s again a very heartening thing that we’re witnessing in this lifetime.”

And Watts still has more coming up, including her role in the upcoming “Game of Thrones” prequel to air on HBO. The Oscar-nominated actress talked about the pressure of following the juggernaut series, playing a TV anchor in “The Loudest Voice” and how women are uniting more in Hollywood in the

#MeToo era.

AP: In “Ophelia” you play Hamlet’s mother, but the prince isn’t the protagonist of this story.

Watts: This has been changed to the point of view of Ophelia’s and in the play that we know, she was significantly different: quite young and pure. I mean she’s still young pure and chaste and tragic, and then a little bit mad. And we find, I think with Shakespeare’s works, often the women are a little bit one-dimensional, they’re either like that or the opposite, overly sort of emotional or powerful and crazy. And so, it was nice to see a reimagining, that you can take a story like that and just turn it on its head. And it speaks to a new era and new generation.

AP: How did you tap into playing the role of Gretchen Carlson to become a TV personality?



Watts

Kim Kardashian West faces backlash over Kimono shapewear

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Alleged sex tape in R. Kelly case turned over to defense

CHICAGO (AP)—Prosecutors have turned over to R. Kelly's attorneys a tape they say shows the singer having sex with a minor girl two decades ago. The judge in the case said he hopes that at least one of the four cases against Kelly will go to trial early next year. Cook County Judge Lawrence Flood asked prosecutors during a Wednesday hearing to decide which of four indictments they want to proceed with first. A 2020 trial would stand in contrast to what happened in the same courthouse when Kelly's 2008 child pornography trial didn't begin until six years after he was charged. He was acquitted on all charges. Kelly faces sex-related charges involving four women, three of whom were minors when the alleged abuse occurred. He has pleaded not guilty.

Sheryl Crow says 2008 fire destroyed all her master tapes

LONDON (AP)—Singer Sheryl Crow says the original tapes of albums such as "Tuesday Night Music Club" and the track "All I Wanna Do" perished in a 2008 fire at Universal Music Group.

Crow told the BBC Wednesday that her master tapes and back-ups were destroyed in the blaze and that she only discovered the loss after a New York Times report revealed the extent of the damage. Crow says the fire "feels a little apocalyptic" and that she didn't "understand the cover-up." A group of artists, including Soundgarden and estates representing Tupac Shakur and Tom Petty, have sued. The artists allege that Universal failed to protect music ruined in the fire and inform them of the extent of its impact. Universal did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Sebastian Maniscalco to host MTV's 2019 Video Music Awards

NEW YORK (AP)—Comedian and actor Sebastian Maniscalco will host MTV's 2019 Video Music Awards. He'll be joined at the Prudential Center in Newark, New Jersey, on Aug. 26 by some of the industry's biggest stars as they celebrate the year's music videos. Executive producer Bruce Gillmer says Maniscalco's "comedic spin on relatable topics will make this year's show truly unforgettable." Maniscalco is currently on his North American

"You Bother Me" tour. The 45-year-old was the 2018 Billboard "Comedian of the Year" and made his feature film debut last year in the Oscar-winning "Green Book." He'll next be seen on Netflix in Martin Scorsese's "The Irishman," with Robert De Niro, Al Pacino and Joe Pesci.

Dixie Chicks say new album is coming

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The Dixie Chicks took the long way around, but they're returning with new music soon after a 13-year hiatus. The award-winning group's lead singer, Natalie Maines, took to Instagram recently to tease a new album. Using a baby filter, Maines exclaims "Dixie Chicks!" Bandmates Emily Robison and Martie Maguire then say "Album" and "Coming." Their producer, Jack Antonoff, says "Some day." Their representative has not responded to an email seeking comment on the upcoming album. The Dixie Chicks' last album in 2006, "Taking the Long Way," won the Grammy award for Album of the Year. The group received both support and severe backlash in 2003 after Maines told a London audience that they were ashamed President George W. Bush was from Texas.

NEW YORK (AP)—Kim Kardashian West has received backlash on social media from people who object to what they say is appropriation of the traditional Japanese kimono in the name of her upcoming shapewear line.

The reality star, makeup mogul and budding lawyer announced the line, Kimono Solutionwear, on Tuesday. The line will come in a range of sizes and

colors she showed off on Instagram.

Some Japanese critics on social media said the name, which West trademarked, is an inappropriate take on centuries-old kimono clothing.

There was no word on when the line would go on sale. West



Kardashian

said it's "coming soon." An email request for comment to West's spokeswoman was not immediately returned Wednesday.

The kimono has evolved to a style of formal dress worn for special occasions, including weddings, funerals and tea ceremonies.

'Dog the Bounty Hunter' co-star Beth Chapman dies at 51

HONOLULU (AP)—Beth Chapman, who co-starred with her husband on the "Dog the Bounty Hunter" reality TV show and later spoke out against some bail reform measures as a leader of a national bail agents' organization, has died.

Chapman died early Wednesday at Queen's Medical Center after an almost 2-year battle with cancer, Mona Wood-Sword, a family

spokeswoman, said in a statement. She was 51.

Chapman was diagnosed with throat cancer in September 2017 after getting a nagging cough checked out. A tumor was removed, and she was declared cancer-free. But in November 2018, she was diagnosed with stage



Chapman

four lung cancer.

"This is the time she would wake up to go hike Koko Head mountain," her husband, Duane "Dog" Chapman, posted on Twitter early Wednesday. "Only today, she hiked the stairway to heaven. We all love you, Beth. See you on the other side."

Prince William says he'd be 'absolutely fine' with gay child

LONDON (AP)—Britain's Prince William says it would be "absolutely fine" if one of his children came out as gay though he'd worry about how the public would respond.

William made the comment on Wednesday while visiting a London nonprofit group that

works with young LGBT people who are homeless or living in hostile environments.

A participant in a group discussion at the Albert Kennedy Trust asked him, "If your child one day in the future said, 'Oh I'm gay, oh I'm lesbian' whatever, how would you react?"

William replied that would be "obviously absolutely fine by me."

The father of three said: "It worries me not because of them being gay. It worries me as to how everyone else will react and perceive it, and then the pressure is then on them."



ART THEFT

Pedestrians walk past the "Four Ladies of Hollywood" gazebo on Hollywood Boulevard in Los Angeles, on Wednesday June 19, 2019. Officials say someone climbed the more than two-story tall public art piece and stole a statue of Marilyn Monroe. A witness saw someone climb the gazebo on the Hollywood Walk of Fame and sawed off the statue. Prosecutors say the man suspected of stealing the statue is the same person who smashed President Trump's Walk of Fame star with a pickaxe last year. The Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office says 25-year-old Austin Mikel Clay pleaded not guilty on Tuesday to felony grand theft and vandalism. He could face 3 years in jail if convicted on all charges.

AP

Couple does battle over who handles household bill-paying

DEAR ABBY: My newly retired husband and I lead a nice life and are in good health. Our two girls are grown and established. Our battle is over my husband "taking back" some of the duties I have performed for years, like paying and mailing out our monthly bills, some of which I pay in person.

This task is easy for me and never a hardship. We have excellent credit. He now wants all the bills to come to him online, and he'll pay them online, leaving me out of the process. He knows I enjoyed doing it and considered it my purview.

I want to continue to handle bill paying as I always have, occasionally taking a statement to a department store or whatever. Paying for checks is not a problem for us. I use a debit card for regular shopping and a credit card in certain stores. I am not a spend-a-holic.

My husband paying bills online cuts me out of the process, and I don't like it. I prefer the method I have used for decades. Is this more of a control issue than anything else? Any ideas?

STIFLED IN WASHINGTON

DEAR STIFLED: Yes, it is a control issue. It is also an indication that your husband doesn't have enough to do. Because the bill paying is partly a social outlet for you, you should not allow the task to be taken over. Tell your husband he needs to find something else to do—mow the lawn, paint the garage, volunteer his time—but not the bill paying because it makes you uncomfortable.

A compromise might be for him to pay some of the bills online and you pay the rest. However, if something unexpected happens to your husband (illness, death, murder?), you absolutely must know how the online system works so you can assume the task seamlessly.

DEAR ABBY: I met my husband 22 years ago and decided to move in with him. I was 21. My mother has never approved of him. He is a blue-collar, hardworking, huge-hearted man. We fell hard for each other, and I didn't care that he wasn't rich. I know Mom was disappointed that I didn't marry a doctor or a lawyer. Instead, I married the man I fell in love with.

The last 22 years haven't been easy. She acts like she accepts him, but then she says horrible things about him. We both have helped my parents during some difficult times, but she still says things that hurt like, "I'm glad you two never had kids."

Well, lo and behold, I ended up getting pregnant at 40, and we have an amazing son together. I keep trying to start over with Mom, especially since my son was born, but she has continued her evil ways.

I'm finally done with her, and my husband and I have decided to move to another state where my husband's family lives so our son can grow up surrounded by loving people. I feel sad, but my mother is not willing to accept us. Am I doing the right thing by moving? (My father passed away, and we hung in through her verbal abuse just to make sure Dad

DEAR ABBY

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



was well taken care of.)

ANXIOUS IN ARIZONA

DEAR ANXIOUS: I'm sorry for what you and your husband have been put through. You have clearly tried to make the relationship with your mother work. Because YOU are a mother now, focus on creating a happy life for your son, your husband and yourself. You are doing the right thing for the right reasons. Your mother is toxic. Bon voyage!

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



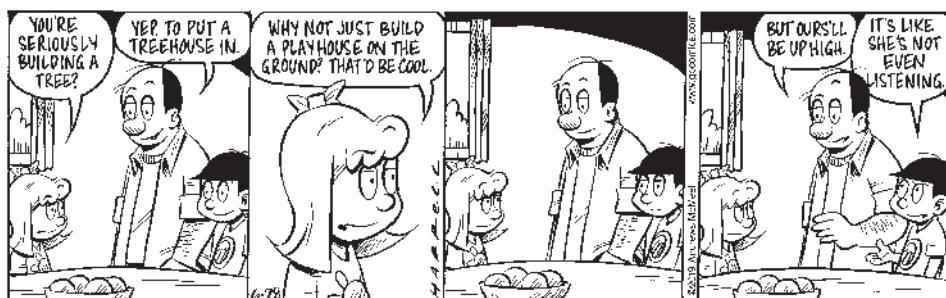
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 "Kapow!"

4 British ref. work

7 Holler

12 Director Spike

13 Chemical suffix

14 Fall sign

15 Nest egg acronym

16 Large, luxurious car

18 Brooch

19 Range

20 Collec- tions

22 — tear (raging)

23 First lady of scat

27 Earth Day mo.

29 Transpar- ent

31 Dolphins' home

34 Traces of smoke

35 Agile

37 Obtained

38 Bygone Peruvian

39 Flamenco cheer

41 Vacillate

45 Quick trip

47 Shoe width

48 Pungent cheese

52 Aachen article

53 Sports figures?

54 Zsa Zsa's sister

55 Speck do

56 Dunkable treat

57 River blocker

58 Actor Brynner

DOWN

1 Radar dots

2 High nest

3 Signified

4 Fixes a squeak

5 Newspa- per chief

6 Fiend

7 Pivot

8 That guy's sash

9 Kimono

10 Samovar

11 — kwon do

17 Ellipse

21 Ballroom dance

23 Radiates

24 Vinyl records

25 Back talk

26 Billboards

28 Picnic dessert

30 — Jima

31 Roman 1051

32 "There's no — team!"

33 "Better Call Saul" network

36 Bellow

37 Swiss metropolis

40 Sledded in the Winter Olympics

42 Like a neglected garden

43 Vowel group

44 Streisand title role

45 Equitable

46 Streetcar

48 Leary's drug

49 Jurist Lance

50 Fortify

51 A/C meas.

Solution time: 25 mins.

ZAP

IMAG

PAR

MAD

SWEDEN

LIS

ASAP

PENAL

IMP

HUEY

OSSA

PETS

GLEE

LEND

FAITS

SAW

PO

ESQ

PCP

PALAS

UNDER

LA

APP

NAPE

IMAX

GITE

SECEDES

LBJ

BEET

LOA

RUDDCR

IVS

AN

RAM

Solution time: 25 mins.

Z	A	P	G	L	E	E	N	A	P
I	M	A	L	E	N	D	I	M	A
P	A	R	F	A	I	T	S	C	I
M	A	D	S	E	C	E	D	E	S
S	W	E	D	E	N	L	E	J	
L	I	S	S	A	W	S	O	F	A
A	S	A	P	P	O	B	E	T	
P	E	N	A	L	E	S	O	L	A
P	O	P	R	U	D	D	E	R	
I	M	P	A	L	A	S	I	V	S
H	U	E	Y	U	N	D	E	R	P
O	S	S	A	L	A	T	A	N	I
P	E	T	S	A	P	P	S	R	A

Yesterday's answer 6-28

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12			13				14			
15			16			17				
18			19							
20			21		22			23	24	25
			27	28			29	30		
31	32	33					34			
35				36		37				
38				39	40			41	42	43
			45				46		47	
48	49	50	51						52	
53					54				55	
56					57				58	

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Kellie Pickler, 33; John Cusack, 53; Kathy Bates, 71; Mel Brooks, 93.

Happy Birthday: Know your target. The ups and downs will be tiresome if you aren't prepared. Think on your feet, and play to win. This is a year of plenty if you know how to tap dance on demand. Resistance is futile; go with the flow and rely on your attributes, skills and experience to get you to the finish line. Your numbers are 6, 11, 20, 23, 28, 37, 44.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Situations can change rapidly. Bide your time, listen to what others have to say and keep your thoughts to yourself until you feel you have something concrete to back your opinions as well as the decisions you make. ★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You'll have trouble making up your mind. Don't jump to conclusions or get into a feud over something that may not be valid. Discipline and patience will be required if you want to avoid making an emotional mistake. ★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Trust issues will arise if communication breaks down. Ask direct questions, and be open to suggestions or advice from someone who has never steered you wrong in the past. Romance is in the stars, but so is deception. ★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Actions speak louder than words. If something needs doing, do it yourself. Waiting around for things to happen or for someone else to step up will set you back. Now is not the time

to ask for help; just do it. ★★★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Don't feel you have to make a change or sign up for something because someone else does. A change at work or being pushed in a different vocational direction shouldn't be looked at as a loss. Personal improvement is favored. ★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Sign up for something new and exciting. Apply your skills to trends that can lead to more significant opportunities. Attend a reunion or get together with people you have collaborated with successfully in the past, and see where it leads. ★★★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): An unexpected change will leave you feeling insecure. Before you let negativity interfere, look at the possibilities that exist. Relax, and let things unfold naturally. In the end, what transpires will turn out to be a blessing in disguise. ★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): It's to your advantage to know what others plan to do if you are going to consider a joint venture. Attend a trade show or meeting that will give you the facts you need to make a wise decision. ★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): If something doesn't seem right, it probably isn't. Look for warning signs when dealing with friends or relatives who may be hiding a secret or information that is detrimental to your relationship. Live life moderately, and offer others understanding and support. ★★★

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): No need to flex your muscles. Offer others the same freedom you want, and go about your business. The changes you bring about at home will entice the ones you love to spend more time enjoying the comforts of your place. ★★★★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Sit tight and concentrate on personal improvement. If you don't count on anyone else, you won't be disappointed. Look for a creative outlet that will encourage you to get involved in something that will expand your circle of friends. ★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): An exciting way to use your attributes will arise, giving way to an unexpected opportunity, a chance meeting and a new way to bring in extra cash. Explore the possibilities, and take action. Don't let someone's excessive behavior ruin your fun. ★★★★★

Birthday Baby: You are funny, proactive and intelligent. You are helpful and reliable.

To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit EugeniaLast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

		2		7				4
	1		6			3		
3			1		2			
		4		1			6	
	8		4			1		
1			3		5			
		7		3				2
	6		2			5		
8		4		3				

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

6/28

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

4	2	7	6	9	8	5	3	1
3	5	1	7	4	2	9	8	6
9	8	6	3	5	1	7	4	2
7	3	8	9	2	6	1	5	4
5	6	4	1	3	7	8	2	9
2	1	9	4	8	5	6	7	3
6	7	5	2	1	4	3	9	8
1	4	3	8	7	9	2	6	5
8	9	2	5	6	3	4	1	7

Difficulty Level ★★

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

EXCULPATORY EVIDENCE

Solution: 9 letters

F	R	E	C	O	R	D	E	T	E	C	T	I	V	E
A	G	R	E	E	M	E	N	T	N	O	D	H	A	
I	E	T	A	G	I	T	S	E	V	N	I	S	E	C
R	O	T	U	C	E	S	O	R	P	S	I	A	T	
N	O	I	S	S	E	S	S	O	P	E	C	N	R	S
E	L	R	W	E	Y	O	Y	L	T	S	L	U	G	A
T	N	A	A	L	U	R	E	D	I	S	O	P	L	Y
N	Ⓔ	E	L	L	O	D	A	O	C	O	C	S	L	P
A	Ⓔ	L	C	R	B	U	O	T	L	S	T	E	L	O
D	Ⓔ	A	C	O	S	B	N	T	A	A	G	S	T	L
N	Ⓔ	C	V	O	T	T	B	G	Y	E	R	O	U	I
E	A	L	E	R	R	E	T	D	Y	H	O	V	C	B
F	V	A	A	A	L	A	E	P	P	A	I	B	E	
E	M	C	D	I	T	N	E	M	U	C	O	D	A	I
D	T	Y	N	O	M	I	T	S	E	T	R	I	A	L

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6/28

Absolve, Acts, Agreement, Alleged, Appeal, Brady, Case, Civil, Claim, Clear, Confess, Contract, Court, Custody, Defendant, Detective, Disclose, Document, Doubt, Duty, Fair, Favor, Guilt, Hear, Investigate, Laboratory, Laws, Legal, Liability, Photo, Plea, Police, Possession, Prosecutor, Punish, Record, Rule, Scene, Team, Testimony, Trial

Yesterday's Answer: Paulsen

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UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

Adams' 3-run homer lifts Nats over Marlins



M I A M I
(AP)—Matt Adams' hitting

approach lately has put off any thought of the left-handed hitting first baseman being replaced by a right-handed pinch hitter in key situations.

Washington Nationals manager Dave Martinez allowed Adams to face left-handed reliever Wei-Yin Chen in a crucial moment.

The strategy worked as Adams hit a three-run homer in the sixth to lead the Nationals over the Miami Marlins 7-5 on Wednesday night.

"He got a ball in the strike zone and he's not missing," Martinez said. "That's the key."

Adams' shot off Chen gave Washington a 4-1 lead. Adams drove Chen's pitch over the wall in right-center for his 11th homer.

"Just seeing the ball better," Adams said. "Some very good at-bats, making them come to me, instead of changing off-speed stuff off the plate."

Patrick Corbin pitched seven solid innings and snapped a four-game road losing streak. Corbin (7-5) allowed one run and three hits, walked one and struck out nine. He struck out Cesar Puello in the second inning to reach 1,000 for his career.

"I felt good. I was able to locate my fastball," Corbin said. "Threw some strikes inside. Had a good slider throughout the course of the game. I think I had my best changeup so far this year. Just continue to build off of that."

Yankees 8, Blue Jays 7

In New York, Gleyber Torres lined a game-winning single in the ninth inning and the Yankees hit two more homers to beat the Toronto Blue Jays.

Didi Gregorius and DJ LeMahieu connected as the Yankees extended their major league record to 29 straight games with a home run. The AL East leaders overcame two homers and a double by Lourdes Gurriel Jr., plus an early 5-0 deficit, to finish a power-packed 9-1 homestand.

Now, they'll head straight from Yankee Stadium to England, where they'll enjoy two days off before playing the Boston Red Sox at London Stadium on Saturday and Sunday in the first major league games in Europe.

Athletics 2, Cardinals 0

In St. Louis, Beau Taylor and Matt Chapman homered, and Daniel Mengden pitched six scoreless innings to lead Oakland.

Mengden (2-1) gave up four hits and struck out five for his first win since May 18 at Detroit. He took the starting rotation spot



Washington Nationals' Matt Adams watches his three-run home run in the sixth inning of a baseball game against the Marlins, Wednesday, June 26, 2019, in Miami. AP

of Frankie Montas, who was suspended 80 games June 21 for testing positive for a performance-enhancing substance.

Yusmeiro Petit pitched the seventh, Joakim Soria the eighth and Liam Hendriks got the last three outs for his second save in four chances. Hendriks has not allowed a run in 23 of his last 25 appearances.

Phillies 5, Mets 4, 10 innings

In Philadelphia, Jay Bruce ripped an RBI double in the bottom of the 10th inning against his former team, and Philadelphia rallied to beat reeling New York.

Mets lefty Jason Vargas tied a career high with 10 strikeouts in his first start since being fined for an expletive-filled confrontation with a reporter, but was pulled after only 77 pitches and the Phillies overcame a 4-0 deficit against New York's leaky bullpen.

Rhys Hoskins drew a walk from Stephen Nogosek (0-1), and J.T. Realmuto singled.

Indians 5, Royals 3

In Cleveland, Trevor Bauer struck out a season-high 12 in 6 2/3 innings, and the Indians beat Kansas City.

Bauer (6-6) had the 23rd double-figure strikeout game of his career and his fourth this season. The right-hander gave up one run and didn't allow a hit until rookie Humberto Arteaga singled with two outs in the fifth.

Bauer matched a career high by throwing 127 pitches and held the Royals to three hits.

White Sox 8, Red Sox 7

In Boston, José Abreu hit a two-run homer over the Green Monster and out of Fenway Park in the ninth inning as Chicago recovered after blowing the lead in the eighth.

The White Sox had leads of 3-0, 5-2 and 6-4 before the Red Sox scored three in the eighth to take a 7-6 lead and hand Chicago closer Alex Colomé (3-1) his first blown save in 17 opportunities.

Matt Barnes (3-3) gave up three straight hits in the top of the ninth—Leury García was caught stealing—including Abreu's 19th homer of the season.

Padres 10, Orioles 5

In Baltimore, Frammil Reyes hit two of San Diego's five homers, Eric Hosmer drove in four runs and the Padres finished a two-game sweep.

Greg Garcia got the long ball barrage started with a two-run drive in the second inning off Dylan Bundy (3-10). After Reyes hit a solo shot in the third and a two-run drive in the fifth to make it 6-3, Hosmer went deep with a runner on in the sixth and Hunter Renfroe connected leading off the seventh.

It marked the 10th time this season that Baltimore yielded at least five home runs. Bundy gave up two of them and now has allowed 19 homers in 16 starts.

Rockies 6, Giants 3

In San Francisco, David Dahl hit a go-ahead grand slam in the third and drove in a career-high five runs to lead Colorado.

Dahl connected off Jeff Samardzija for his second career grand slam, with the other coming last Sept. 10 against Arizona. It marked the first grand slam ever hit by a Rockies player in San Francisco.

Dahl added an RBI single in the seventh. He had a two-run shot in the series opener.

The big swing in the series finale backed German Márquez (8-3), who immediately surrendered Pablo Sandoval's homer the next inning but won his second straight decision.

Diamondbacks 8, Dodgers 2

In Phoenix, Eduardo Escobar's three-run home gave Arizona a four-run lead before Los Angeles recorded an out, and the Diamondbacks cruised to the win.

The Dodgers, with the best record in the majors at 55-27, lost for just the second time—both to Arizona in the three-game series—in nine games, while Arizona finished a nine-game homestand 3-6.

Jarrod Dyson had three hits, an RBI and swiped two bases to raise his NL-leading total to 19. He also had a home run-stealing catch over the right-center field fence.

Rangers 4, Tigers 1

In Detroit, Mike Minor allowed five hits in his second complete game of the year, and Willie Calhoun, Jeff Mathis and Danny Santana homered in the fifth inning to lift Texas.

Minor (8-4) struck out seven with two walks, throwing 108 pitches in his third career

complete game. He now has 12 consecutive starts allowing three runs or fewer while pitching at least five innings.

Matthew Boyd (5-6) struck out 11 for Detroit in seven innings.

Angels 5, Reds 1

In Anaheim, Justin Bour hit two homers, Mike Trout scored the tiebreaking run in the eighth inning and Los Angeles got back above .500.

Shohei Ohtani went 3 for 3 with a walk for the Angels (41-40), who hit the halfway point of their season with six wins in nine games after this two-game interleague sweep.

Trout walked leading off the eighth and advanced on a wild pickoff throw by Raisel Iglesias (1-7). After Ohtani singled Trout to third, Cincinnati got two outs before David Fletcher hit a deep grounder to shortstop Jose Iglesias, who couldn't get off a throw while Trout scampered home.

Twins 6, Rays 4

In Minneapolis, Nelson Cruz had three hits, including a go-ahead, three-run double after Tampa Bay starter Charlie Morton left in the seventh inning to lead Minnesota.

Taylor Rogers got the last four outs for his 10th save, and the Twins beat the Rays for the fifth straight time.

Cruz beat out an infield single that died in the grass halfway up the third-base line during a three-run first against Morton (8-2).

Mariners 4, Brewers 2

In Milwaukee, J.P. Crawford

drove in three runs and Wade LeBlanc struck out six in five innings to help Seattle win its third straight.

Crawford put Seattle on the board with an RBI double in the first inning and then made it 3-0 with a run-scoring triple in the second.

Those runs came at the expense of Brewers right-hander Adrian Houser (2-2), who allowed three runs and four hits in two innings.

Mariners opener Matt Carasiti needed just 18 pitches to get through his one inning.

Braves 5, Cubs 3

In Chicago, Dallas Keuchel earned his first win for Atlanta, backed by Nick Markakis' three-run homer against the Cubs.

Brian McCann also connected for the Braves, who won a matchup of NL division leaders for the second straight night.

Keuchel (1-1) allowed three runs and eight hits over 5 2/3 innings in his second start with Atlanta. He remained in the game following a 48-minute rain delay in the fourth.

Pirates 14, Astros 2

In Houston, Josh Bell hit his 21st homer, Corey Dickerson had four hits and three RBIs, and rookie Dario Agrazal threw six strong innings to earn his first major league win as Pittsburgh routed the Astros.

Bell connected off rookie Framber Valdez (3-4) for a two-run shot in the first inning and the Pirates added two runs each in the second and third to build a 6-1 lead and cruise to their fifth victory in six games.

Durant declines \$31.5M player option



OAKLAND — Golden State Warriors superstar Kevin Durant has declined his \$31.5 million player option for next season, according to ESPN, meaning he will become an unrestricted free agent once free agency begins Sunday.

While this move was expected, it's still significant, as it means Durant — who tore his Achilles in Game 5 of the NBA

Finals and is expected to miss all of next season — won't for sure be with Golden State for the 2019-20 campaign.

Despite the injury, the former league MVP will still have his fair share of suitors.

ESPN reported that Durant, 30, is still considering multiple scenarios, including a return to Golden State. He's also considering the New York Knicks, Brooklyn Nets and Los Angeles Clippers, according to the report.

The Warriors can offer Durant a larger contract—an additional year and over \$50 million—than any other team.

Durant, who signed with Golden State in the summer of 2016, won two championships and two Finals MVPs in his first two seasons with the Warriors.

Meanwhile, center Marc Gasol will exercise his \$25.6 million player option and return to the Toronto Raptors, the team

announced Wednesday.

Gasol, 34, had the choice to enter free agency, but decided instead to stay with the 2019 NBA champions.

He had played his entire career with the Memphis Grizzlies before he was traded to the Raptors in February. Gasol had less of a scoring role and

played fewer minutes on the Raptors than he did in Memphis, but still averaged 9.1 points, 6.6 rebounds and 3.9 rebounds for Toronto during the regular season.

His defense was crucial to the Raptors' championship run and he stepped up in the NBA Finals against the Gold-

en State Warriors, averaging 12 points and 7.3 rebounds on 44.7% shooting.

The Raptors will look to resign Finals MVP Kawhi Leonard and try to keep their starting lineup complete for a run at a repeat championship. Leonard will be one of the top unrestricted free agents this summer.

Nadal, Federer seeding in Wimbledon questioned

WIMBLEDON, England (AP)—Eight-time champion Roger Federer was seeded No. 2 for Wimbledon, one spot ahead of Rafael Nadal, reversing their positions in the ATP rankings and creating a debate about whether the All England Club's seeding system should be changed.

Top-ranked Novak Djokovic, the defending champion, was seeded No. 1 on Wednesday at the grass-court Grand Slam tournament, where recent results on the surface are used to help determine seedings. The other majors do not do that.

Nadal told a Spanish TV station that he doesn't think it makes sense that Wimbledon is the only tournament that uses its own seeding system. Former U.S. Davis Cup captain Patrick McEnroe and former player and coach Brad Gilbert tweeted that they thought Nadal should have been seeded No. 2.

"Wimbledon is the only tournament of the year that doesn't follow the ranking," Nadal said.

"It's their choice. Either way, being second or third seed, I have to play at the best

level to aspire to the things I aspire to. It is better to be second than third, but if they consider that I have to be third I will accept. I don't think it's a good thing that Wimbledon is the only one with its own seeding formula."

The ATP's Top 32 men are seeded at Wimbledon, but the order is based on a formula that gives players additional credit for ranking points earned at tournaments played on grass over the preceding two years. That allowed Federer, who won his 10th title at Halle, Germany, last week, to jump ahead of Nadal, who potentially could have to beat both Djokovic and Federer to win what would be his third championship at Wimbledon.

Nadal is coming off his record 12th title at the French Open, which is played on clay, and he did not enter any sort of tuneup event on grass this year. He rarely does.

While Nadal did reach the Wimbledon final in five consecutive appearances in the tournament from 2006-11, he had not been so successful of late until a run to the semifinals last year. From 2012-17,

Nadal never made it past the fourth round at the All England Club, including one exit in the first round and a pair in the second.

There were other examples of shifts from rankings to seedings. Last year's runner-up, Kevin Anderson, was seeded No. 4, even though he is ranked only No. 8 this week; 2018 semifinalist John Isner is seeded No. 9, ranked No. 12; 2017 runner-up Marin Cilic is seeded No. 13, ranked No. 18.

This year's women's seedings at the All England Club strictly follow the WTA rankings, so French Open champion Ash Barty is at No. 1.

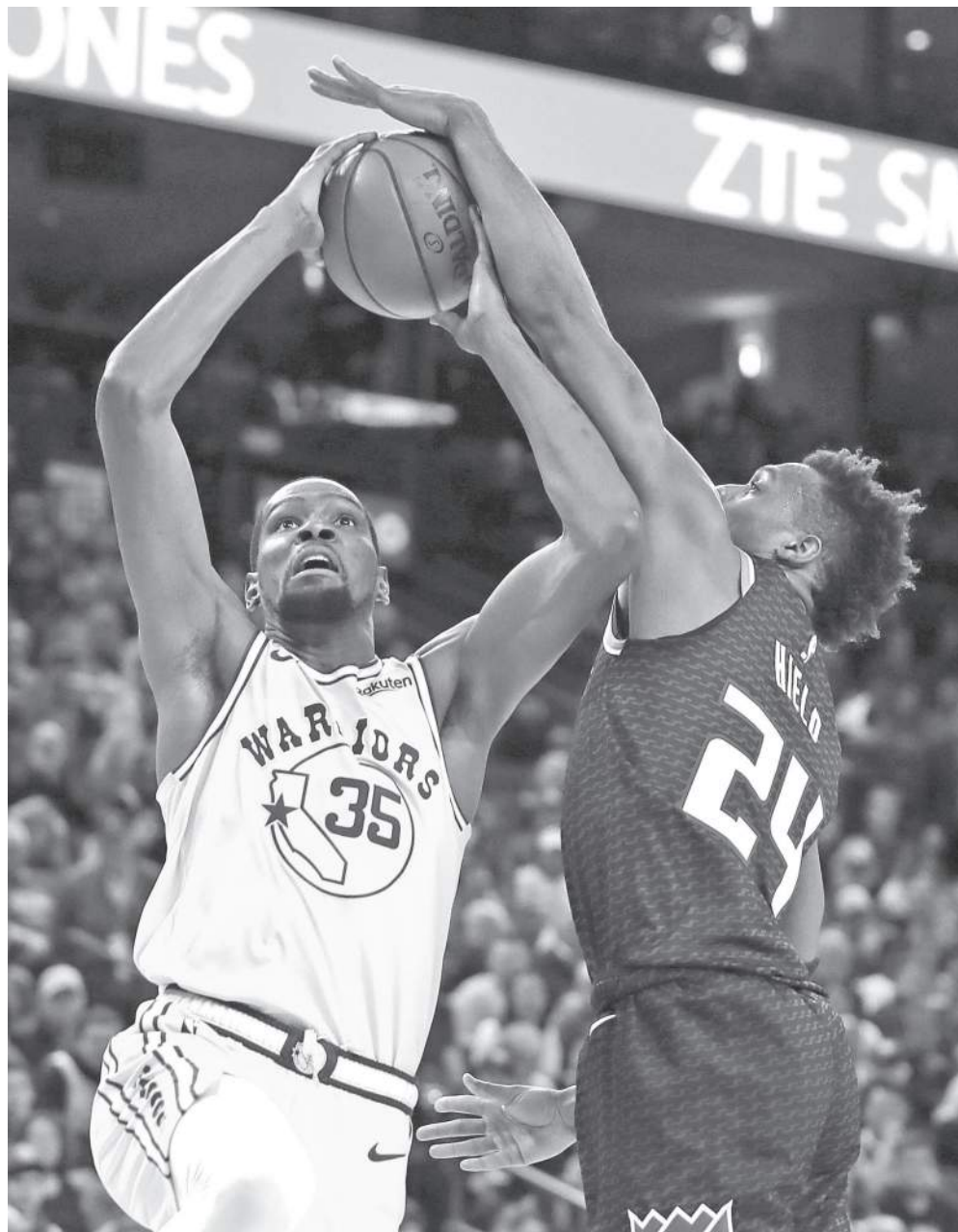
Naomi Osaka is No. 2, followed by Karolina Pliskova.

Seven-time Wimbledon champion Serena Williams is seeded 11th, the same place she holds in this week's rankings.

A year ago, early in her return to the tour after having a baby, Williams was ranked just 183rd but seeded 25th.

She wound up reaching the final before losing to champion Angelique Kerber.

The draw is Friday; play begins Monday.



Golden State Warriors' Kevin Durant (35) shoots against Sacramento Kings' Buddy Hield, right, during the second half of an NBA basketball game Thursday, Feb. 21, 2019, in Oakland, Calif. AP

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Altidore's bicycle kick lifts US past Panama

KANSAS CITY, Kan. (AP)—Jozy Altidore made an impression in first return to the United States' starting lineup.

Altidore scored on an overhead kick in his first start for the national team in 20 months, lifting the U.S. over Panama 1-0 Wednesday night as the Americans finished first in their CONCACAF Gold Cup group.

Altidore got the goal from 2 yards following a corner kick in the 66th minute that was redirected by Matt Miazga. Coming back from a hamstring injury that slowed him at the start of training camp, the 29-year-old Altidore scored his 42nd goal in 113 international appearances.

After the match, he walked by reporters and did not stop to respond to questions.

The defending champion United States went 3-0 in group play and outscored opponents 11-0. The 30th-ranked Americans play No. 79 Curaçao in the quarterfinals.

"This is a team we can't take lightly," U.S. coach Gregg Berhalter said. "We're going to go in fully prepared. They have talent. They can score goals."

The plus-11 goal difference was the best in the Gold Cup



The United States' Jozy Altidore goes for a bicycle kick against Panama in the CONCACAF Gold Cup soccer match in Kansas City, Kan., Wednesday, June 26, 2019. The United States won, 1-0.

for the Americans, topping plus-nine in 2013. The Americans did not allow a goal in a three-match group stage for the second time, the first since 2007, and improved to 36 wins, one loss and four draws in the Gold Cup group stage.

"I talked to Jozy at halftime and asked how much more he had in him," Berhalter ex-

plained. "He said, 'I want to stay on the field.' When you hear that from a player, it makes you feel great. When that player goes out and scores the winning goal, it makes you feel even better."

Both teams already had clinched quarterfinal berths.



Berhalter changed all 11 starters and Panama nine. Altidore had not started since the loss at Trinidad and Tobago on Oct. 10, 2017, that ended the Americans' streak of seven straight World Cup appearances.

After the group-stage wins

over two bad teams and Panama's reserves, the road now should get tougher for the Americans. Maybe. The U.S. has just about the most favorable draw imaginable as the Gold Cup reaches the quarterfinals, as both Mexico and Costa Rica are in the other half of the bracket, while Group C favorite Honduras stumbled

and was eliminated.

The Americans will meet Curaçao in the second game of Sunday's quarterfinal doubleheader at Lincoln Financial Field in Philadelphia. Playing in just its second Gold Cup, Curaçao advanced thanks to a 1-0 upset of Honduras and then a stunning stoppage-time equalizer against Jamaica on Tuesday. A lot of its roster plays in the Netherlands. Captain Cuco Martina is an Everton player who spent last season on loan at Stoke City and Feyenoord.

The U.S. played Curaçao twice back when it was called Netherlands Antilles. The Americans won a home-and-home World Cup qualifying series in 1984, 4-0 on aggregate, thanks to a 4-0 second-leg triumph in St. Louis.

A win Sunday would mean a semifinal in Nashville against the Jamaica-Panama survivor, which is, again, a game a full-strength U.S. squad should be expected to win. So far, Berhalter's first team has beaten the foes it should beat, and done so handily. And his second team played well enough to get a result. That's a good start, and the best way to build momentum toward a potential showdown with Mexico.

PARIS (AP)—Video review has created confusion and brought questions at the Women's World Cup.

The Video Assistant Referee, or VAR, was integrated into the men's World Cup in Russia last year, leading to calls for it to also be used for the women's tournament in France. But it certainly hasn't gone as smoothly as it did for the men.

VAR has already led to a change in the rules for the knockout stage of the tournament. Some have suggested there has been an overreliance on the technology, and there have been complaints that it is causing delays and interrupting the flow of the game.

FIFA officials insisted Wednesday that the system is working as intended.

"The VAR cannot be blind, cannot ignore. If you have a tool that offers you the possibility to check, you have to check," said Pierluigi Collina, chairman of FIFA's refereeing committee.

Through 44 matches at the Women's World Cup, there were 441 incidents checked through the course of play and 29 VAR reviews, FIFA said. That's one review per 1.52 matches. Of those reviews, 25 resulted in decisions being changed. Four were confirmed.

There have been a record 23 penalty kicks heading into the quarterfinals, surpassing the 22 taken across the entire 2011

Video review creates drama at Women's World Cup



Esther Staubli from Switzerland watches the VAR monitor during the Women's World Cup Group C soccer match between Australia and Brazil at Stade de la Mosson in Montpellier, France, Thursday, June 13, 2019.

World Cup in Canada. Eleven were awarded with VAR assistance. Three were cancelled after VAR review.

Collina maintains that VAR helps referees by making sure calls are correct in the high-pressure setting of the World Cup while also protecting teams from bad calls that

might impact advancement in the tournament.

Kari Seitz, FIFA's senior manager of refereeing, insisted VAR is not changing the way games are being officiated.

"We instruct the referees to referee as they would referee (without



VAR), and that is really a critical point. They are out there officiating like they would officiate with or without VAR. That hasn't changed. Refereeing remains the same, but with the parachute, with the opportunity to correct those big mistakes,

or those things the video evidence shows us," Seitz said.

The rule was meant to give goalkeepers more flexibility, making them keep just one foot, not two, on the goal-line during penalty kicks. But the use of VAR strictly enforced the rule, with goalkeepers given little time to adjust. FIFA

feared more goalkeepers could be penalized and sent off, a concern because no substitutes are allowed during shootouts.

So FIFA received approval from the game's lawmaking body last week to suspend the requirement that goalkeepers be shown yellow cards for stepping off the goal-line during penalty shootouts, which means goalkeepers can only be booked at the tournament for stepping off the line during a penalty kick in normal time. The kick will still be re-taken, however.

The law could be revisited at future meetings of the International Football Association Board, which includes four FIFA delegates and a representative from each of the four British associations.

"I mean they're calling it very tight and I guess we didn't really know coming into the tournament how tight they were really going to call it," U.S. goalkeeper Alyssa Naeher said at the end of the group stage. "I think the last few games has obviously shown what they can and will call. So I think it's just something to keep in the back of my mind, trying not to dwell on it or think about it too much and have it affect what I'm doing and how I'm playing. But it's obviously something you have to be aware of."

National teams' training camps in full swing

By **ROSELYN B. MONROY**
roselyn_monroy@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI's national football team players are putting the work at their respective off-island training camps.

In the Philippines, members of the U15 and U19 national squads have been doing drills in the morning and evening since they arrived at the Tuloy Foundation XO Field last Saturday. They also played a couple of training matches and did a community service at their host's turf.

"We played three sets of matches with the Tuloy's U17 girls team. It was a good training session experience for the new players on the team, and for the first-timers in Tuloy. Everyone had their time on the field. Coaches had the U19 play first set then a mixed team in the second. The third set, we started with the U15 girls then adding a few senior players," team manager and assistant coach Angie Ito said.

The visiting players then did

aquaponics as part of the community outreach activities.

"They planted arugula, fed the fish and carried and put soil in pots. They really enjoyed the activity and they were amazed at how nothing was wasted in aquaponics," Ito added.

Meanwhile, members of the CNMI Men's U19 National Team and some U23 players arrived in Japan last Tuesday and completed their own set of training matches in the first two days of the camp.

The group kicked off its activities with a morning training at the Hokuiyo Sports Center last Tuesday. Then in the afternoon, the Commonwealth players dueled St. Catherine University. Yesterday, coach Michiteru Mita's players followed the same training schedule before battling Matsuyama Technical High School.

The CNMI crew will have three more training games—versus Ehime University, FC Imabari Youth, and St. Catherine University again—before heading back to Saipan



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Members of the CNMI women's U19 and U15 national teams enjoy doing aquaponics during a community service at Tuloy Foundation in the Philippines where they are having a training camp in preparation for the 2019 Marianas Cup.

BADMINTON

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eventually going to face them anyways. When approaching any game, we would always want to be the first on the attack and be the ones to set the tempo. If we play the way I know we can play, we'll have pretty good results," the team captain added.

Tahiti will be led by France-based Remi Rossi and is handled by a Chinese coach.

Besides Tahiti, the CNMI will also go up against host Samoa, Fiji, New Caledonia, Kiribati, and Tonga in the mixed team event, which will feature men's and women's singles and doubles, and mixed doubles. The badminton competition will run until July 13

with the seven countries also playing in separate men's and women's singles and doubles and mixed doubles events.

Since they are competing in the first week of the Pacific Games, Guerrero and company will leave Saipan next week, giving the squad with only four days to put the finishing touches on their preparations for the tournament.

"The team is doing pretty well in training. Once June started, we had to make a little bit of sacrifice with our time so we could practice a lot more. The focus right now is just to make sure we try to minimize mistakes and get our footwork and our placements right," Guerrero said.

He added that they been working out with Macoi



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The CNMI Men's U19 National Team players and officials pose for a photo at the departure area of the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport last Tuesday before they head to Japan for a training camp.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

on Tuesday.

The visiting team is in Japan to get ready for the 2019 Marianas Cup and the AFC U19 Championship 2020 Qualifiers. Guam will host the Marianas Cup on July 20, while the Asian Football Confederation-sanctioned event is set for Nov. 2 to 10 in Cambodia, with the CNMI facing the host country, Brunei, Thailand, and Malaysia in the Group G matches. The Commonwealth's female players will also see action in the Marianas Cup next month.

Members and officials of the CNMI U19 and U15 national teams gather for a photo at the departure area of the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport last Saturday before they head to the Philippines for a training camp.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Players of the CNMI U19 and U15 national teams walk past the Tuloy XO Field carrying bags of soil and water bottles as they head to a greenhouse.

Aguda, who has competed in various Northern Marianas Badminton Association-sanctioned tournaments and played against the members of the CNMI team.

"He is helping us with some drills and placement drills. He's doing a great job and we are fortunate to have him help us," Guerrero said.

Team CNMI sendoff today

Meanwhile, a send-off ceremony for Team CNMI will be held this afternoon at 5:30pm at Kanoa Resort.

Badminton, tennis, golf, va'a, athletics, swimming, and beach volleyball athletes and officials will meet with their well-wishers before they head to Apia next week for the Pacific Games

CAROL

From Page 32

ing either Lee or Ukita.

Incidentally, the CNMI player had met Ukita in the same tournament last year. Lee paired with Di Tommaso and they lost to Ukita and Yamazaki in the doubles semifinals of the South Pacific Open.

The 17-year-old is also playing in the doubles event this year and has a different partner in Hong Kong's Wing Ka Lin. The No. 1 seed pair

eased past Vanuatu's Rosalie Molbaleh and the Solomon Islands' Zorika Morgan, 6-0, 6-0, to make it to the quarterfinal round. Molbaleh and Morgan set a second round match over Lee and Lin after sweeping Japan's Ery Fuji and Yuna Miyauchi, 6-3, 6-3.

Lee and Lin will play in the quarterfinals today against No. 7 seed and Chinese Taipei's Ya Chi Hsu and En-Chi Wang, who ousted the Australian tandem of Piper Freeman and Surenraj, 6-2, 6-3.

Meanwhile, the CNMI's Robbie Schorr and Jimin Woo advanced to the second round of the boys singles event.

Woo rallied slipped past New Zealand's Grayson Schwalger in the opener, 6-3, 6-7 (3), 6-2, before losing to No. 8 seed and Australia's Amor Jasika, 2-6, 0-6, in the second round. The No. 11 seed Schorr, on the other hand, drew a bye and automatically marched into Round 2, but was beaten by Chinese-Taipei's Chuan Yu Chiu, 6-4, 6-4.

Durant declines
\$31.5M player
option

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Saipan Tribune Sports



Altidore's bicycle
kick lifts US past
Panama

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Badminton players no pushovers

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

They maybe newcomers in the 2019 Pacific Games, but the CNMI National Badminton Team players are no pushovers.

"We are driven. Despite not having any kind of professional coaching, our team is really keen on not only winning but wanting to grow and get better," said team captain Nate Guerrero.

Joining Guerrero on the squad are siblings Janelle and Jordan Pangilinan, brothers Ezekiel and Daniel Macario, Nicole Malasarte, and Andreau Galvez.

"Everyone of us puts in our two cents and help each other out whether it be learning new things or looking out and trying to fix our mistakes. We really want to medal, we most definitely want to get gold but any medal will suffice, as this is only our first regional tournament. The game plan out there is simple—win and have fun. And like what I told the team, we're either going to win or learn," Guerrero



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Ezekiel Macario, Jordan Pangilinan, Andreau Galvez, Janelle Pangilinan, Nicole Malasarte, Daniel Macario, and Nate Guerrero pose for a photo before their training session at the TSL Sports Complex last Tuesday.



said. The CNMI bets will have their debut against Tahiti on July 8 and though they are facing the No. 1 seed for their first game, Guerrero believes the team is up for the challenge.

"I wouldn't say we're too worried if we face them first or whenever because we're

See BADMINTON on Page 31



SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Janelle Pangilinan serves to Nicole Malasarte during a local tournament at the TSL Sports Complex.

Carol on track to title defense



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Carol Lee, seen here in action at the Australian Open Juniors early this year, is in the quarterfinals of both the singles and doubles events of the South Pacific Open Junior Championships 2019 in Fiji.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



Carol Lee swept her first to matches in the South Pacific Open Junior Championships 2019 to boost her bid for back-to-back championships in the singles event of the J4 tournament in Fiji.

The CNMI player, who topped the 2018 edition of the competition after beating Japan's Ikumi Yamazaki in the finals, 6-2, 6-1, routed Australia's Subi Surenraj last Tuesday, 6-0, 6-0, and then made it two in a row when she swept New Zealand's Kaithlynn Hart yesterday, 6-1, 6-0.

The pair of victories put the No. 1 seed Lee in the quarterfinals where she will face Japan's Manami Ukita. The No. 6 seed Japanese advanced to the Round of 8 after eliminating Chinese-Taipei's Ya Chi Hsu, 7-6 (5), 6-2, and Australia's Chiara Di Tommaso, 6-3, 6-1.

The six other qualifiers in the quarterfinals are also seeded players: No. 2 Lara Walker and No. 3 Roopa Bains of Australia; No. 10 Callissa Dellabarca and No. 8 Jennifer Kida of the U.S.; No. 4 Kokomi Koyama of Japan; and No. 11 Eleanor Schuster of Samoa.

Schuster and Walker will battle in the quarterfinals of the lower half of the draw, while Kida and Koyama will duel in the other Round of 8 match in the group. At the upper half of the draw, it will be Bains against Dellabarca with the winner fac-

See CAROL on Page 31